

A General

# HISTORY

Of all the

## REBELLIONS,

*Insurrections and Conspiracies*

IN

E N G L A N D,

FROM

The *Norman* Conquest to the Pre-  
sent Times.

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In Great Britain and Conjuracies

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# PREFACE.



*I*f it is allow'd beyond Controversy, that the richest Fields of History are Scenes of Action and Commotion, where Nations are agitated by Wars abroad, or Factions at Home; and that the worst Province an Historian can fall upon is a Series of barren Times, in which nothing remarkable happeneth, to awake our Attention or engage our Notice; then it must likewise be granted as a necessary Consequence, that our English History will hardly give place to any, a richer Soil and greater Abundance and Copiousness of better Materials being scarce to be found in any other, that of the Romans only excepted.

The several Rebellions, Insurrections and Conspiracies, that have been in almost every Reign form'd and set on Foot in this Nation, do make so great and considerable a Figure, and take up so much Room, that they  
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may justly be called, the very Spirit and Life of our English History. And the extraordinary and surprizing Events, Revolutions and Alterations thereby produc'd, do deservedly employ and attract the Curiosity, not only of the nicer and more judicious sort, but also of the Flegmatick and Negligent, whose Attentions and Desires are not easily nor readily rous'd

Some of these Insurrections prov'd fatal to those that rais'd them; others to the Sovereigns against whom they were designed; and oftentimes to both; but none of them ever fail'd to have this one Effect, viz. to involve the poor Country in inexpressible Miseries and Calamities, which was sure to be wounded through the sides by both Parties, becoming the Scene of Oppression, Desolation, Poverty and Bloodshed, where-ever those Hurricanes happen'd to blow. Sometimes they have brought about considerable Changes in the Civil Administration; sometimes in the Church Government; and likewise sometimes the Subversion of both. Now they pull down the Prince from his Throne and set another upon it; then a Descendant of the former puts in his Claim, and carries his Right by the Assistance of the same Set of Men that promoted his Enemy. Here one Brother disloyally endeavours to pluck the Scepter from another; there the Wife conspires against her Sovereign Lord and Husband;

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band; and the Son, like Absalom, against his Royal Father. Nay, rather than want Tools, some of these Rebellions have forg'd Impostors of the basest Clay, and set them up in Competition with the Prince on the Throne. Some have been kindled with little Sparks, and grown to a general Conflagration; others have had more real and solid Foundations, and yet have been overthrown before they were carry'd to a Head. The stiff and fiery Zeal of a Church-Man has advanced some Insurrections to a high and surprizing Pitch; and the Pride and Ambition of a powerful and popular Nobleman has often caused terrible Concussions in the State. Nay, some of these Rebellions have been made use of by the very meanest of the Populace to destroy all Authority, and introduce Anarchy and Confusion. And which is still more amazing, an ignoble Person has made use of such Steps to usurp the supreme Power and Prerogative, and to rule the Nation Arbitrarily as any of her Monarchs ever did.

With such astonishing Variety as this, and with a great deal more, are the Accounts of our English Civil Broils and Rebellions replenish'd. And these being the very Flowers of History, the most useful as well as entertaining Parts of it; and there being something in the Histories of our own Times and Nation that engages us as Parties, and gives us an Interest in the Events, induc'd me to  
make



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make the following Abstract; partly to present the Reader with a compendious View of all those several Rebellions, Civil Wars and Conspiracies, which are with no small trouble to be found out and perus'd by themselves in the general Histories; the Advantage whereof I need not insinuate; and partly to oblige those that have neither Time to peruse, nor Inclination to purchase, those large and voluminous Books, whence the following Abstract is taken: And as this is no where else perform'd, I flatter my self, that I have taken no unnecessary Pains.

All that is further fit to be said here, is, that in this Abridgment I have no where receded from the Sense of my Authors, and have preserved their Fidelity, leaving it to the Reader to pass his own Judgment freely of the Matters of Fact, except where the Historian sometimes interposes, according to his Privilege.





A General

# HISTORY

Of all the

## REBELLIONS *in* ENGLAND.

WILLIAM I. A. D. 1066.



HE renown'd *William* was the first of the *Norman* Race that govern'd this Nation, who, tho' he had the Name of *Conqueror* given him in all Ages, yet he obtain'd and enjoy'd the Crown of *England* by such a Concurrency of various Circumstances, that it may in a great Measure be said of him, as was said of *Augustus*, that he came to the Empire neither by Conquest, nor Usurpation, nor Inheritance nor Election; but by a strange Mixture of all these together.

Having establish'd all Things for his own Security and the Settlement of the Nation, he resolv'd in the very first Year of his Reign

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to make a Journey into his own Country of *Normandy*.

But he was not long absent from his new gain'd Country, before Disorders were kindled in it, which were occasion'd by the Severities of *Odo*, and *Fitz-Osbrn* the King's Brother and Cousin, to whom he committed the Government in his Absence. But especially those in *Kent* being exasperated, took Occasion from the Absence of *Odo* and *Hugh Montfort* with a considerable Force, to send to *Eustachius* Earl of *Boloign*, inviting him to joyn with them in the Surprizal of *Dover* Castle. He agreed with them in the Design, and pass'd over in the Night with a Fleet fill'd with chosen Soldiers, and joining with them attack'd the Castle; but finding the Defendants more resolute and numerous than they expected, he drew off with his Men to his Ships and return'd home. About the same Time *Edrick* Sirnam'd the Forrester, in the County of *Hereford*, call'd in the Assistance of two Kings of *Wales*, and ravag'd several Parts of the Country. These Transactions hasten'd the King's Return into *England*, where tho' he had a great deal of Work on his Hands, and was oblig'd to treat the *Englsh* Bishops and Nobility with much Subtilty and Officiousness, yet at the same Time he forgot not to punish their Disloyalty and Unquietness in his Absence; for he exacted a severe Tax, which was that of *Danegeld*, and had been remitted by *Edward* the Confessor.

These Taxes were the Occasion of a fresh Rebellion the same Year in the *West*. For the



the City of *Exeter* refus'd to admit of a Garrison there, to whom the King sent his Message, *That he was never us'd to such Subjects;* Therefore he march'd with an Army against it. Approaching near the City, the Chief of the Citizens came out to meet him, begging Peace and Depositing such Hostages as the King demanded. But in the mean Time the ordinary Townsmen refus'd to deliver up the City; whereupon he commanded his Army to make their Approaches to it. Then bringing one of the Hostages before the Gates, he there put out his Eyes, and beginning to batter and undermine the Walls, the Inhabitants implor'd his Mercy; which he granted thro' the Mediation of those who first came over to him with the Clergy, who all begg'd Pardon for the Folly and Obstinacy of the Common People. But that the City might be finally depriv'd of the Power of Rebelling any more, the King caus'd a Castle to be built within the Walls, and left many stout Soldiers to remain there in Garrison. And not long after this Expedition, he thought fit to divide among his *Norman* Commanders, and those of other Nations, the Lands of those who had been in Arms against him in the Battle of *Hastings* before he was King, and of those who were engag'd in the late Insurrections; all which he look'd upon as forfeited Estates.

One Insurrection was no sooner quell'd, but another more dangerous began by Means of Earl *Edwin*, who after Promise of one of the King's Daughters in Marriage was unjustly disappointed. This and some other Affronts provok'd him and his Brother *Mar-*

char to take up Arms, and being both very powerful and popular; many in the Northern Parts, where their Governments lay, came in to their Assistance, as also their Nephew *Blethyn* Prince of *North-Wales* with a great Number of *Welshmen*. But the King's vigorous Proceedings against them so discourag'd the two Earls, that doubting of Success, they soon begg'd the King's Mercy, and were generously receiv'd into Favour.

The third Year of his Reign was remarkable for a new and greater Insurrection in the North, which began to break out upon the Arrival of *Robert Cumin* the new Governour at *Durham*, who lying securely as he thought in the City, was surpriz'd in the Night by the *Northumbrians*, and he and all the *Normans*, except one, to the Number of Seven Hundred, were Massacred. While this Insurrection was on Foot, the fugitive *English* in *Denmark* procur'd the Assistance of King *Swane*, who sent a Fleet of Two Hundred and Forty Sail well Man'd. These arriving in the *Humber*, landed their Men in order to march to *York*. Upon their nearer Approach, the *Normans* who kept the Castle burnt all or most of that noble City. But the *Danes* and *Northumbrians* Besieging the Castles quickly became Masters of them, with a terrible Slaughter of their Governour and Three Thousand *Normans*.

The King, upon receiving the ill News, threatn'd not only to chastise the Rebels, but to extirpate the *Northumbrians*. And accordingly arriving in *Yorkshire*, which was then Part of the Earldome of *Northumberland*,  
he

*the* **Rebellions in ENGLAND.** 5

he put most of the People to the Sword, and laid the whole Country waste. And having routed the *Danish* Army, the *English* were so discourag'd in the City, that they soon surrender'd it to the Conqueror. After which the King soon became Master of the whole Country, which suffer'd considerably in this War, all the *Northern* Parts being so depopulated, that between *York* and *Durham*, there remain'd no Town inhabited; but the Land lay waste and untill'd for above Nine Years. This was also attended by so dreadful a Famine in all those Parts, that in this Year as well as the next the miserable Remains of the People were forc'd to feed upon Horses and Dogs, and even Man's Flesh, to save themselves from Perishing. Such are the direful Effects of Rebellions and civil Wars.

After this, Earl *Morchar* designing a new Rebellion, betook himself to the Isle of *Ely*, where he met with many great Men of the *English*. These daily increasing, fortify'd the Isle against the King, who not long after march'd down against these Malecontents, where he met with great Difficulties and Resistance, till after the Loss of many of his Men, he was advis'd to seize all the Lands and Goods belonging to the Monastery, that were out of the Isle, and divide them amongst his Soldiers. This oblig'd the Monks, with their Abbot, who were Owners of the Isle, not only to submit upon having their Lands restor'd to them, but also to give the King a Thousand Marks, (a vast Sum in those Days) and to deliver the Island peaceably to his Hands. But the Noblemen were sent by him  
to



to several Prisons; and having cut off the Hands, and put out the Eyes of many of the common Soldiers, he let them go. And farther to secure the Island to his Obedience, he quarter'd Forty Norman Knights in the Monastery, obliging the Monks not only to find them Subsistence, but also their usual Wages.

The last Conspiracy which was form'd against *William* the 1st, was occasion'd by *Ralph de Water* Earl of *Norfolk* and *Suffolk*, who having marry'd *Emma* the King's Cousin without his Consent, was so transported with the Greatness of the Alliance and the Power of Wine, that on the Wedding-Day he perswaded his Guests into a Rebellion: With whom *Roger* Earl of *Hereford*, the Bride's Father, and *Waltheaf*, whom the King had lately made Earl of *Northumberland* and *Huntington*, readily comply'd, with several other Barons, Abbots and Bishops. But Earl *Waltheaf* repented the next Morning, alledging that he was deluded and overcome with Wine; and went into *Normandy* to the King, to whom he discover'd all, and threw himself upon his Mercy. But the rest began the Rebellion with all their united Forces, and burnt and plunder'd many Towns. But the Governours of the Castles, together with the People of those Countries, soon frustrated their Designs: And this Conspiracy was almost quell'd before the King's Return from *Normandy*, who hastning to the *West*, where some Relicks of the Rebellion still remain'd, soon put an End to all Tumults, and us'd the Conspirators with great Severity, cut off

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the Hands of some, put out the Eyes of others, hang'd some upon Gibbets, and those who escap'd best suffer'd Punishment. After could Earl *Waltheof* himself escape Punishment, notwithstanding he had reveal'd the Conspiracy; for after the King had cur'd him with Ingratitude, he caus'd him to be beheaded at *Wimchester*.

## WILLIAM II. 1087.

*William* the II<sup>d</sup>. had a Faction rais'd against him in his very Entry to the Administration, which was occasion'd by his tough and haughty natural Temper, and his Want of Primogeniture. The Chief of this Party was his Uncle *Odo*, who drawing into this Conspiracy many others of the English Nobility, urg'd *Robert* the Elder Brother to return to England and recover his Right, who accordingly wrote to him that he should expect his Landing in the West of England by a Day prefix'd. Upon this *Odo* assuming Courage, shew'd himself first in the Action, and fortifying *Rocheſter*, began to disturb the County of *Kent*. In the West, *Robert de Mowbray* Earl of *Northumberland* seiz'd upon *Bath* and *Berkeley*, with a great Part of *Wiltshire*, and strongly fortify'd the Castle of *Bristol*. In *Norfolk*, *Roger Bigot*, in *Lincolnshire* *Gretemerſton* bid extremely waste those Countries. *Roger Montgomery* with his *Welshmen*, assisted by *William* Bishop of *Durham* and other Noble Normans, with Fire and Sword, pals'd the County of *Worcester*. King *William* on the other Hand, vigorously proceeded to the Suppressing these Insurrections. For having order'd his Fleet

to guard the Seas against his Brother Robert's intended Descent, he march'd in Person against his Uncle *Osby*, and besieg'd him in *Rochester*, together with *Eustachius* Earl of *Bul-lain* and many other Noblemen and Persons of inferiour Rank, who in vain expected the Assistance of Duke Robert, who was detain'd only by Ease and Sloth from his promis'd Expedition. These were at length forc'd out of the Town into the Castle, where many perish'd by a raging Sickness, and being press'd with many other Necessities, they sent a Message to the King, *That upon Condition they might enjoy their Lands and Estates, they would deliver up the Castle, and for the future serve him faithfully*; But the King solemnly Swore, *That he would take the perfidious Rebels by force, and destroy them with all Kinds of Deaths*; And when his Nobility who had many Friends and Relations in the Castle, perswaded him to Moderation, he return'd them this remarkable Answer, *That whosoever spar'd perjur'd Men, Robbers, Plunderers and Traitors, depriv'd all good Men of their Peace and Quietness, and laid a Foundation of innumerable Mischiefs to the Virtuous and Innocent*: But at length overcome by the Intercession of his faithful Friends the Bishops, with the *English* Noblemen and other Loyal ancient Barons, he granted the besieged their Lives, pardon'd the Loss of their Limbs, and gave them Leave to pass out of the Castle with their Horses and Arms, but without Hopes of ever enjoying their Lands and Estates during his Reign. Whereupon they were all forc'd to quit the Kingdom; and the King bestow'd their Estates upon others who



who had serv'd him faithfully during this War. About the 8th or 9th Year of his Reign, this King was disturb'd by another great Conspiracy, form'd against him by *Robert de Mowbray* Earl of *Northumberland*, and many other *Norman* Noblemen; whereof the King having Notice, rais'd an Army, march'd against them, and besieg'd *Bambrough* Castle; at length *Robert* fell into his Hands, who was kept a Prisoner almost Thirty Years. *Roger Lacy* had his Lands taken from him and given to his Brother *Hugh*, a faithful Adherent of the King's; *Hugh* Earl of *Chester* gave Three Thousand Pounds to be restor'd to Favour; as also the King receiv'd of many others great Sums of Money, as Compositions for their Crimes. *William* Earl of *Eu*, being fully convicted, lost both his Eyes and Generals. But many others, by the Advice of the Council, the King spar'd out of Policy. The remaining Part of this King's Reign was free from Domestick Insurrections.

## HENRY I. 1100.

HE was succeeded by his Younger Brother *Henry*; who took the Advantage of his Eldest Brother *Duke Robert's* Absence in the *Holy Land*. About the 2d Year of this Reign, a Flame broke out, which consum'd the Parties that kindl'd it. *Roger de Belesme* Earl of *Shrewsbury*, an intrepid Youth, presuming upon the Power of his Friends and Fortunes, fortify'd the Castles of *Shrewsbury*, *Bridgeworth*, *Tickhill* and

and *Arundel*, and joining with the disaffected *Welsh*, made a formidable Insurrection. Upon which the King with great Vigour and Resolution march'd into those Parts: Against *Arundel* Castle, he rais'd another of Wood and took it: Besieg'd *Bridgeworth*, which immediately yielded; and *Shrewsbury* soon sent him their Keys, and Pledges of their Obedience. So that in a short Time *Belisne* with the two Earls his Brothers, *Roger* and *Arnulph*, were constrain'd to leave England and their Estates, and retire into *Normandy*. The rest of this King's long Reign was free from intestine Broils.

## STEPHEN.

**T**H O' the Empress *Matilda* had Fealty sworn to her in her Father *Henry's* Lifetime, yet *Stephen* Earl of *Blois* his Nephew obtain'd the Crown in her Absence. The Beginnings of his Government were very peaceable; but by several Steps, civil Discord began, and increas'd to the infinite Damage of the whole Nation. For many of the *English*, out of hatred to him, secretly invited *David* King of *Scotland* to revenge the Injuries done to the Empress *Matilda*. And after this, the factious Peers taking up Arms against him in his Absence in *Normandy*, put all *England* in a Tumult. These alledg'd, that the King had violated his Oath concerning their Forests, and other Immunities of the Church and Commonwealth. But the King soon reduc'd his disobedient Barons to Submission. Afterwards the Divisions between the  
 King

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King and his Bishops, whose Castles and Treasures he had seiz'd, occasion'd many to rebel, and encourag'd the Empress to come over in Person. And now began all the Miseries of a Civil War. If any Earl or great Man injur'd or affronted another, both Parties frequently got together all their Knights that held of them, their other Tenants and poor Dependants, with all the Assistance of their Friends and Confederates, and burnt each others Castles and Houses, destroy'd their Lands and their Territories, and carry'd away the Inhabitants Prisoners. And now there were in *England* as many Tyrants as there were Lords of Castles, every one pretending to coin Money and exercise the Rights of Sovereignty. And to all these Calamities, the King had with him great Numbers of *Flemmings* and *Britains*, who being accusom'd to live by Plundering, came into *England* to devour the Riches of the Land.

In the mean Time *Stephen* perform'd all the Parts of a vigilant Commander, and closely besieg'd *Matilda* and her Brother in *Wallingford* Castle; but finding little Prospect of Success he caus'd a remarkable Tower of Wood to be there erected, which he well furnish'd with Men and Ammunition, and then remov'd to the Siege of *Malmesbury*. The Empress took up her Quarters in *Lincoln*, and stor'd the City with all Necessaries; whither *Stephen* march'd directly and besieged the City, where he had surpriz'd his greatest Enemy, had he not found Means to escape. Soon after this was fought a bloody Battle at *Lincoln*, between the two Parties; wherein after



a dreadful Contest on both Sides, and for a while with equal Success, the *Flammings* and the King's Cavalry fled; wherupon the Earl of *Chester* charg'd the King's Body of Foot, which being overpower'd by the Horse, began also to faint and fly, leaving the King almost alone in the Field; yet no Man dar'd to approach him, while grinding his Teeth and foaming like a furious wild Boar, with his Battle-Ax, he drove whole Troops before him, to the eternal Renown of his Courage. At last he was surrounded, taken Prisoner and sent to *Bristol* Castle, where after some Time he was ingloriously settler'd. Hereupon the Empress was declar'd Queen in a Council call'd at *Winchester*; but having afterwards disoblig'd the *Londoners* and others, the Bishop of *Winchester* made use of that favourable Opportunity to sollicit the discontented *Londoners* in Favour of his Brother King *Stephen*, and stor'd several Castles with Men and Ammunition. The Effect of all this was the King's Release, who was exchang'd upon equal Terms with Earl *Robert*, *Matilda's* Brother, whom the King's Forces had taken Prisoner near *Winchester*, where herself narrowly escap'd, being carry'd to *Gloucester* in a common Coffin or Hearse like a dead Corpse. Thereafter the Empress was closely besieg'd in *Oxford* for two Months, where at length, Want making the Besieged think of a Surrender, she was once more forc'd to make use of Policy, and to take Advantage of the Sharpness of the Winter, when the River *Thames* was cover'd with Ice and Snow. Being reduc'd to Extremity she

she undertook a dangerous Attempt; for Cloathing herself and a select Company with white Garments to deceive the Eyes of the Centinels, she issu'd secretly by Night out of a Postern Gate, and passing the frozen River, ran on Foot thro' Ice, Snow, Ditches and Vallies for Five Miles as far as *Abington*, with the Snow still driving in their Faces, and there taking Horse the same Night, recover'd the Castle of *Wallingford*. After this a dismal Civil War was carry'd on for several Years, of which we have but a short and slender Account. But at length King *Stephen's* Interest increased; and the two famous Earls, *Robert of Gloucester* and *Milo of Hereford*, Men of great Abilities and unshaken Fidelity to the Empress, having both lost their Lives, caus'd her to leave *England* and retire into *Normandy*.

But about two Years after, her Son Prince *Henry* resolv'd to make one Attempt more for a Crown, and accordingly came over into *England* with a small but select Army, to whom were joyn'd the discontented Earl of *Chester*, with many Knights and valiant Men of the *English*. But there was no set Battle fought between King *Stephen* and the Prince, for just as the two Armies were ready to engage, an unlucky Omen made *Stephen* alter his Resolution and determine Matters by a peaceable Agreement. So there was a Grand Council held, wherein it was concluded between the King and Prince *Henry*, that *Henry* should succeed *Stephen* as his lawful Heir to the Kingdom. This Period of King *Stephen's* Troubles was soon follow'd by that of his Life.

HENRY

HENRY II. 1173.

WHEN Henry the Second had, as he imagin'd, surmounted all Difficulties and Troubles, which were not a few in the former Part of his Reign, occasion'd thro' his Differences with Thomas Becket Archbishop of Canterbury and the See of Rome; about the Nineteenth Year of his Reign, an unnatural Rebellion and Conspiracy began to disclose new Mischiefs, which were ordain'd to exertile this wise and warlike Prince; being first began in England during his Absence in Ireland, and in a short Time increas'd to a dangerous degree. One of the Chief Fomenters of it was Queen Eleanor his Wife, violently enrag'd at the Injuries done to her Bed, by her Husband, who was immoderately addicted to Variety of Loves; more particularly he was captivated by the Charms of the beautiful Lady Rosamond Clifford, whom he kept at Woodstock, some say in a Labyrinth, where the Queen found Means to end her Life. Besides his Queen, his own Son Henry (whom he had formerly caus'd to be crown'd King in a Grand Council) was another great Actor, whose Ambition transported him beyond all Reason and Duty. This Conspiracy was justly formidable; for to these were added the King's two Younger Sons, Richard and Geoffry, whom their Mother persuaded to joyn with the young King, the two Kings of France and Scotland, Philip Earl of Flanders, Matthew Earl of Bolougne and other Noblemen in great Numbers. These gave the



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most plausible Turn to their Designs, and were pleas'd to repute the Father no King, because he had crown'd his Son.

Tho' nothing could be more afflicting than this unnatural War, yet the King proceeded with his usual Vigour and Dexterity, and found great Numbers whose Hearts were inflam'd with Indignation at so much Injustice. The Particulars of this War would fill a Volume. It is sufficient to acquaint the Reader, that the King had many successful Encounters (mix'd with some Losses, yet still his Affairs were in an ill Condition, until he had finish'd his Vengeance for *Baile's* Murder, after which he had great Success. For it pleas'd God to drive back his disobedient Son, the young King, into *France*, who being under Sail for *England*, his whole Fleet was dispers'd, and a great Part of it lost by a Storm. His other Successes are by *William* comprehended in these few Words: "He vanquish'd the Rebels, put his Enemies to flight, and seiz'd on their Forts. Finally, the Hand of God, by taking away the young King at *Mortshou*, an End to the infamous and intricate Snares between King *Henry* and his four waylike Sons. And some Years after Heaven's Vengeance likewise pursu'd the Disobedience of the Second surviving Brother, *Geoffrey*, who in a publick Tournament at *Paris* was trodden under the Horses Feet, and miserably crush'd to Death, in the Twenty Eighth Year of his Age. So that the King saw half of his rebellious Male Issue extinct before him, and by Deaths as violent as their Dispositions. The other two, who

who surviv'd him, were no less miserable in their Ends.

**RICHARD I. 1189.**

**R**ichard, the Elder, who succeeded his Father on the Throne, had indeed innumerable Troubles in his Reign; but none of them were occasion'd by any intestine Conspiracies. Only his Brother *John* prov'd disloyal to him, while he was detained Prisoner in Germany, by the Emperor and the Duke of Austria, in his Return from the Holy Land. But Earl *John* met with a loyal Resistance from the Peers and People, whom he solicited to swear Fealty to him, and was afterwards by the States of England, not only disinherited of all his Lands he then held in England, but also of all Honours which he expected to enjoy after the King's Decease; and the Bishop of Coventry, and others who sided with him, met with Censure according to their Offences and the Usage of these Times. But the King, whose Clemency as well as Courage were conspicuous, readily receiv'd *John* into Favour thro' the Mediation of his Mother *Eleanor*, generously saying to him, *I wish I may as easily forgive your Offences as I doubt you will my Pardon of mine.*

**JOHN 1199.**

**T**HO' King *Richard* had design'd his Nephew *Arthur* Duke of Britaigne to the Succession of the Crown, yet the Peers of England acknowledg'd *John* his Brother, who was by

by them *elected* King. and crown'd by *Hubert* Archbishop of *Canterbury*.

In the Sixteenth Year of his Reign began an unhappy War, call'd the Barons War, occasion'd by the Nobilities positive insisting, and the King's obstinate refusing to confirm the Laws of King *Edward*, and the Liberties and Privileges of other preceding Kings. The Barons having defy'd the King and renounc'd their Homage, in a short Time possess'd themselves of the City of *London*, and besieged the Tower, and by their threatening Letters to all Opposers, soon caus'd a very great Defection in all Parts. The King for a while kept himself on the Defensive; but at length finding himself much overpower'd, he without any seeming Difficulty granted them the Laws and Liberties in two Charters, because being so many, they could not be contain'd in one Schedule. The First and Chief is call'd *Charta communium Libertatum* or *Magna Charta*, and the other *Charta Foresta*.

But the King afterwards relaps'd, and having procur'd the *Magna Charta* to be condemn'd by the Pope, he began a War upon his Subjects; and dividing his Army into two Parts, with the One he march'd Northwards, where he victoriously subdu'd all Places, while the Earl of *Salisbury* with the other Foreigners, did the same Southwards. At which Time all Things were in a deplorable State. The Pope excommunicated all the disloyal Barons, and interdicted all their Lands, together with the City of *London*, where they had their chief Residence, which

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gave a dangerous Blow to their Faction. And while they were thus declining, King *John* ranged thro' all Parts with his cruel Mercenaries, who spared neither Age nor Sex, suffering none to escape their Barbarities.

The Barons finding their Estates given to Strangers, and their Wives and Daughters violated, and Fortunes ruin'd, began now to Curse the Pope, who had formerly most shamefully encourag'd them to withstand their Sovereign; and to recover all, resolv'd upon a desperate Project agreeable to their former Actions, which was to deliver the Kingdom of *England* into the Hands of *Lewis* the Dauphine of *France*. Accordingly by their Invitation the Dauphine comes into *England*, and declaring his Pretensions to the Crown, with little Opposition subdu'd *Rocheſter* and all the Country, except *Dover* Castle, and was joyfully receiv'd into *London* by the Barons. His Homagers daily increaſing, in no long Time he made himſelf Maſter of moſt of *Kent*, *Suſſex* and *Hampſhire*, with almoſt all the Southern Parts of *England*. But King *John* and his mighty Army breaking forth with a ſudden Violence, like a furious Tempeſt, overran many Counties, to the Deſtruction of the Barons Caſtles, Houſes, Lands and Poſſeſſions in all Parts. The Barons were now under great Troubles and Afflictions to ſee their Native Country, by their own Willfulneſs, thus horribly ravag'd; and what added to their Grief, was to find that their faithful Services were not ſo reſpected by *Lewis*, as he and their own vain Hopes had promis'd them: But their greateſt Affliction was what

what they accidentally learnt from the Viscount *de Melun* a French Nobleman, who being in his last Sickness at London, getierously sent to those Barons that were there for the Security of the City, and declared to them, " That he was extremely griev'd for  
" the impending Ruin that was fallen upon  
" them, of which they had no Knowledge;  
" particularly that Prince *Lewis*, with Sixteen  
" Earls and Barons of *France*, had sworn,  
" that when he had conquer'd *England* and  
" was crown'd, he would for ever banish all  
" those that fought for him against King  
" *John*, as Traytors to the Realm, and de-  
" stroy their Posterity. This being whsper'd among the Nobility, prov'd a terrible Alarm to them, both as to their Security and their Consciences, especially when they found themselves thus stigmatiz'd with the odious Character of *Traytors* by a foreign Prince, and under Sentence of Excommunication from the Apostolick Authority. Some of these reflecting upon their miserable Condition, thought of returning to their old Obedience; but others were afraid they had so highly provok'd the King, that he would never accept of their Return. Yet no less than Forty of the Barons took a Resolution to quit Prince *Lewis*, and sent their humble Submission of Obedience to the King a little before his Death, which happen'd soon after thro' excessive Grief, for the Loss of his Carriages and Treasure in the Mouth of the *River Welland*.

**HENRY III. 1216.**

**T**HE Baron's Wars did not end with King John's Reign; for after the Coronation of young Prince Henry his Son, who was then but Ten Years of Age, Prince Lewis had still London at his Devotion, and many Potent Earls, Barons, and valiant Malecontents subject to his Command. But after his Army had done much Damage in the Counties thro' which they pass'd, they were at length wholly defeated by the Royal Forces at *Lincoln*, commanded by the Earl of *Pembroke*, Governor to the young King. In the Conflict the Force of natural Propension was very apparent, for notwithstanding the fierce Resolutions of the King's Soldiers, when they saw the Faces of their Kinsmen, Friends and Countrymen on the other Side, they began to relent, and most of their Revenge fell upon their Horses and not their Riders, whom they only endeavour'd to take Prisoners. The Chiefest of the Barons with about Forty Knights, besides Esquires and ordinary Soldiers, and a vast Number of the Townsmen were taken Prisoners; such as escap'd the Fight were set upon by the Country People, who kill'd great Numbers of them. The whole Riches of the vanquish'd Army and of the whole City of *Lincoln* became the Booty of the King's Soldiers, and because the Clergy were excommunicated, the Pope's Legate order'd them not to spare the Churches nor the Cathedral itself. This Victory was follow'd with another at Sea, where a *French* Fleet



*the* REBELLIONS in ENGLAND. 2f

Fleet bound for *London*, with a large Supply both of Men and Ammunition, was totally defeated by the *English* Navy, and *Eustace* a Trayterous Monk who came with the said Fleet, was after a long Search found and drawn out from the Bottom of a Pump, and at *Dover* had his Head cut off. These Successes oblig'd Prince *Lewis* to come to a Treaty of Agreement with King *Henry*, and to leave the Nation in Peace.

After the Nation was in a settl'd Condition and the King crown'd a second Time, the Calm which was just begun, grew soon disturb'd by sudden Storms; for while the King kept his Christmases with great Magnificence at *Oxford*, *William* Earl of *Albemarle* incited by *Faukes de Breus* and other turbulent Gentlemen, upon some Discontent left the Court without Leave, and fortify'd the Castle of *Bitham* in *Lincolnshire*, pillag'd the Town of *Deeping*, and under Shew of Repairing to the Parliament, seiz'd on the Castle of *Fotheringay*, and committed many other outrageous Acts in Contempt of the King and to the Breach of the publick Peace. Many others in several Places follow'd his pernicious Example. Yet at length the Earl coming in was pardon'd, and the like Clemency was extended towards his Accomplices and Followers, whom the King in respect of former Services set free without Punishment or Ransom.

In the Second Year of this Reign happen'd a Sedition in *London*, which was rais'd by *Constantine Fitz Arnulph* a Citizen, who by Means of a Wrestling Match between the  
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Inhabitants of *London* and *Westminster* rais'd a popular Tumult, and attempted to set up Prince *Lewis*, in the Heat of which he cry'd out, *Mount Joy, Mount Joy, God for us and our Lord Lewis!* Tho' the Lord Mayor, a discreet Person, earnestly perswaded all to their Duties, yet *Constantine* had render'd the People incapable of good Service, by the seditious Proclamations he had publish'd. The Noise of the Sedition increasing, *Hubert* the Chief Justiciary with some fresh Troops enter'd the Tower, whether he commanded the principal Men of the City to appear before him, who easily threw off the Blame from themselves upon *Constantine*; upon which, the rest being dismiss'd, he and his Nephew with a Third Person were condemned to be hanged the next Morning; and tho' he offered Fifteen Thousand Pounds for his Life, yet he could not escape the Hand of Justice. This Execution being done without Noise or the Citizens Privacy, the Justiciary accompany'd with *Faukes de Brent* and his arm'd Troops, entered *London* and apprehended such others as were culpable; and for a Terror to the rest, caus'd their Hands or Feet to be cut off, and then set at Liberty.

In the Forty Seventh Year of his Reign, a Fire which had been long in blowing, broke out into a Flame, the King and his Barons taking Arms against each other. Yet at length mutual Weariness inclined them to a Peace, and Matters were piec'd up in a Parliament held at *London*, tho' shortly after all was rent again, both Sides making fresh Preparations for a War. At length the two

*the* **Rebellions in ENGLAND.** 123

Armies met and engag'd in fight, wherein the King and his Brother *Richard* King of the *Romans* were taken Prisoners; and the whole Hope of the Day lost on the King's Side. On the next Day Peace was concluded for the present, on Condition that Prince *Edward* and *Henry* Son to the King of the *Romans* should also render themselves into the Barons Hands. But soon after to the King's great Advantage, there happen'd an irreconcilable Difference between the two great Earls *Lieucester* and *Gloucester*; and the latter forsook the Barons Cause, and having joyn'd himself with *Roger de Mortimer*, who was on the King's Side, several other Peers united to them, and Prince *Edward* escaping came in Safety to them. The Prince having a considerable Strength, march'd against *Montford*, and joyning Battle before the Town of *Evesham*, the Earl's Army was with much Slaughter utterly in the End distressed and discomfited. *Simon de Montford* being slain in fight, had his Head Hands and Feet chop'd off. The King who had been brought a Prisoner into the Field, by his Friends Valour was set at Liberty; who having call'd a Parliament, by the Approbation thereof, seiz'd the Charters of *London* and other disloyal Towns, and disinherited such as were on the Earl's Side, distributing their Estates among his well deserving Subjects. And thus ended that Civil War, which for Five Years tormented this Kingdom, the pretended Patrons of Liberty that undertook it, being as unjust and tyrannical when they once obtain'd the Power, as the unfortunate



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fortunate King they had oppos'd, with this Difference, that instead of one they had then many Tyrants.

**EDWARD I. 1272.**

**I**N the two last Reigns the Monarchy of *England* was extremely debas'd and dishonour'd as well by intestine Convulsions, as foreign Losses; but in this of the Renown'd *Edward* surnam'd *Longshanks*, it began again to raise its Head and to display its Grandeur. And there happen'd not any Rebellions in his long Reign of Thirty Four Years.

**EDWARD II. 1307.**

**H**IS Eldest Son *Edward* of *Carnarvan* succeeded him in the Kingdom with a general Applause, which however he as soon lost, being led by the wicked Councils of *Gaueston* and the *Spencers*; whereat the Nobility swell'd with Rage and Impatience, at length appear openly in Arms against the King, with their General the popular Earl of *Lancaster* at the Head of Eleven Thousand Men, who committed vast Outrages. In the mean Time the King besieg'd the Castle of *Leeds* in *Kent*, took the Governor and all the best of the Garrison and put them to a shameful Death, in Revenge of the Affront his Queen had receiv'd from the Lord of *Badlesmere* to whom the Castle belong'd, being refus'd by him a Nights Lodging in it. Then the King march'd to *Cirecester*, took many Castles and besieg'd others.

In

In the mean Time many of the Lords who began to be apprehensive of the King's Power, forsook their Commander the Earl of *Lancaster*, and surrender'd themselves to the King. The Faction weakened by this Defection being drawn together in the *North*, were pursu'd by the King to *Burgh Bridge*, while they were marching towards their Allies the *Scots*, but were stop'd by the King's Forces. In forcing his Way over the Bridge the Earl of *Hereford* was kill'd, and the Earl of *Lancaster* was taken Prisoner, with many other Barons, Bannerets and Knights, to the Number of Ninety Five. On the third Day after, the King sitting in Judgment at *Pontfract* Castle, with *Edmond* Earl of *Kent*, the Earls of *Pembroke* and *Warren*, both the *Spencers* and others, Sentence of Death was given against *Thomas* Earl of *Lancaster*, by drawing, hanging, and beheading as a Rebel and a Traytor; the two first Punishments were remitted in Regard he was of the Royal Blood, but he was beheaded on the same Day he was condemn'd without the Town of *Pontfract* before his own Castle. And by the same Judgment were condemn'd the Lord *Roger Clifford*, the Lord *Warren-Lisle*, the Lord *William Tokit*, *Thomas Manduit*, *Henry Bradburn*, *William Fitz Williams*, *William Lord Cheyney*, *Thomas Lord Mowbray*, and *Joceline Lord Denynvil*; all which were executed at *Tork*. Shortly after the Lord *Teyes* was taken, drawn, hang'd and quarter'd at *London*, the Lord *Aldenham* at *Windsor*, the Lords *Badlesmere* and *Ashburnham* at *Canterbury*, and the

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Lord

Lord Clifford at Gloucester; all great Men, and in great Cities, to spread the more Terror over the Kingdom; which was attended with the entire Confiscation of all their Lands, Titles and Estates, by which many were enrich'd and advanc'd.

The exorbitant Power and Possessions of the two *Spencers*, at length occasion'd the Destruction of King *Edward*. For the Queen herself, who took their Carriage heinously, while she was in *France* Negotiating a Treaty between the two Kings, she enter'd into a Conspiracy with young *Roger Mortimer*, who having made his Escape from the Tower arriv'd in *France*. Being provided with Men and Vessels, she embark'd for *England* with her Son Prince *Edward* and landed at *Harwich*, and was joyn'd with many Earls, Barons and Knights, and almost all the Prelates, who together made a considerable Army. The unfortunate King, now destitute of Friends and Means as well as Courage and Council, retir'd himself into the *West*, with his inseparable Favourites the *Spencers*; but where-ever he went he found but few Subjects; for those with their Hearts were lost before; but after many Motions as various as his former Humour, he entrusted himself to the Faith of the *Welsh*, who still retained their former Love to him, lying secretly amongst them in the Abby of *Nethe*. But at length after much Search he was found out, with young *Spencer*, *Robert Baldock* Chancellor, and *Simon de Reading*. King *Edward* was convey'd to *Kennleworth* Castle, the Lords to *Hereford*, where the Queen lay with her



her Army. *Spencer* and *Simon de Reading* were both condemn'd to Death, and were both ignominiously hang'd. The distress'd King being now shut up in Prison and without Hopes of any Redemption, after he had been much solicited, at last yielded to resign the Crown to his Son *Edward*. But being still detain'd Prisoner, he was by *Mortimer's* Means at last remov'd privately to *Barkley* Castle, and upon the Twenty Second Day of *September* finding him in his Bed, they press'd heavy Bolsters and Pillows upon his Head, and thro' a Ductile Pipe thrust up a red hot Iron into his Bowels and Body, and in this cruel Manner murder'd him, that no Wound or Mark of a violent Death might be found upon him.

**EDWARD III. 1327.**

**T**HE Wounds and Weakness which the Publick sustained in the Reign of King *Edward* the Second, by intestine Commotions, were in a few Years cur'd by that of his mighty Son: And the *English* Nation not only recovered Vigour and Strength, but also Beauty and Glory. However tho' he was free from Civil Insurrections, yet he liv'd to see all his great Acquisitions, gained with vast Treasure and Bloodshed, quite torn from him, and nothing remaining but the single Town of *Calais*.

## RICHARD II. 1377.

**I**N the Third Year of King *Richard* the Second, a Parliament was held at *Northampton*, wherein every One of each Sex, of the Age of Fifteen Years, was charg'd to pay Twelve Pence a Head ; which with the Hatred born to *John* Duke of *Lancaster* was the Cause of a great Insurrection of the Commons and Bond-Men, chiefly of *Kent*, *Essex*, *Surrey*, *Suffolk*, *Norfolk* and *Cambridgeshire*. The principal Heads of the said giddy Multitude were *Wat Tyler* and *Jack Straw*. The Rebels of *Kent* embattled themselves upon *Blackheath* by *Greenwich*, from whence they march'd to *London*, where the common Sort siding with them, they committed a great many Outrages and Barbarities. The Priory of *St. John's* without *Smithfield*, they kept Burning Seven Days. *Savoy* Palace belonging to the Duke, with all the Riches therein, they consum'd by Fire, in a Kind of holy Outrage ; for they threw one of their Fellows into the Flames, because he had thrust a Piece of stolen Plate into his Bosom. They burnt all the Archbishop's Goods at *Lambeth*, and defac'd all the Writings, Rolls, Records and Monuments of the *Chancery*, as having a special Hatred to the Lawyers. They hurry'd the Archbishop of *Canterbury* and Lord Treasurer *Hales* and some others from the Tower, and impiously cut off their Heads upon *Tower-Hill*. After which they rang'd into the City, and cut off the Heads of many *Englishmen*, to whom they had any Aversion.

And

And they drew *Thirteen Flemmings* out of the Church of the *Augustin Fryars*, and Seventeen more out of other Churches, and cut off their Heads in the Streets with infernal Shouts and hideous Outcries. The King granted their proud Petitions; after which great Multitudes of them repaired to their several Homes. Then he invited the remaining Rout to meet him in *Smithfield*, where he would satisfy their Desires in all Respects. But when they were met in the Place appointed, *Wat Tyler* there in the Presence of the King offering to kill *Sir John Newton* for not giving him due Respect, *William Walworth* Lord Mayor thereupon slew the Arch-Traytor with a Dagger: Which when the Rebels perceiv'd, they prepar'd to take extream Revenge; but the King instantly spurring his Horse bad them follow him, and he would be their Captain, and whilst they throng'd after him into *St. George's Fields*, the Lord Mayor raised a Thousand arm'd Men which came upon them out of the City. This so terrify'd the headless Multitude, that they flung down their Arms and beg'd for Mercy, which the King granted freely; but proclaimed that no Citizen should have any Correspondence with them, nor suffer them to come within the Liberties. When some about the King ask'd Leave to serve the Rebels as they had served others, and to cut off a Hundred or two of their Heads, he mercifully forbad it, lest the Innocent might suffer with the Guilty, for many had been drawn in by Fear, and such fair Pretences as they thought Good and Loyal.

This



This Spirit of Insurrection and Rebellion was not confin'd to London, but furiously spread itself thro' several Parts of the Nation, which was at length suppress'd. Many of the Rebels were afterwards executed at several Places, of whom *Jack Straw* and *John Ball* a Priest had been most notorious.

This King had a bad Education, and was corrupted by Flatterers in his Youth, who taught him Luxury, Viciousness and the Desire of Power; so that being still governed by them, he lost all the Love and Affection the Nation once had for him, and many fatal Contentions happened between him and his Barons, who at last took the Advantage of his Absence in *Ireland* to send for the Duke of *Lancaster*; upon whose Arrival great Multitudes offered their Service to him, as pitying his Calamity and being exasperated against the King, because to furnish his *Irish* Voyage, he had extorted Money on all Hands, so that the Duke soon had an Army of Sixty Thousand Men. The Duke of *York*, whom the King had left behind him to govern *England*, could gain but small Assistance against *Lancaster*, nor could the King at his Return find many Friends, therefore he betook himself to a Parly with his Enemies, the Sum of his Demands being, That if himself and Eight more whom he should name might have honourable Allowance, with the Assurance of a private quiet Life, he would Resign the Crown. This was promis'd him. Whereupon he put himself in the Duke of *Lancaster's* Hands, who lodged him in the Tower of London. And thereafter

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ter in a Parliament called for that Purpose, he was solemnly deposed, and succeeded in his Lifetime by *Henry Duke of Lancaster*.

HENRY IV. 1399.

**H**ENRY the Fourth was scarce establish'd in his new-gained Sovereignty, before a dangerous Conspiracy was hatching against him. The principal Conspirators were the Dukes of *Surrey, Exeter and Arundel*, the Earls of *Huntington, Kent, Salisbury and Gloucester*, and the Bishop of *Carlisle*. Their Plot was to kill the King and his Son *Henry* at a Tournament, to be held at *Oxford* in *Christmas Holy Days*; but before the Time of intended Execution, the Design was discover'd. Whereupon they attempted by open Force to effect that which they could not do by Treachery, and cloathed one *Magdalen* with Royal Robes, who much resembling *Richard* easily deluded the Multitude, by which Means they soon gathered together Forty Thousand Men, and resolv'd to seize the King at *Windsor*; who hearing of their coming had withdrawn himself to *London*, where he provided himself with an Army of Twenty Thousand Men and march'd out to meet them. They on the other Side fearing the King's Valour and the Instability of their Men, retir'd to *Reading*, and from thence towards *Cirecester*, where the Earls of *Kent* and *Salisbury* took up their Lodgings in a small Village, and the Earls of *Huntington* and *Gloucester* theirs in another, leaving their Armies in the Field. The Townsmen thereabouts being informed that Affairs were

were quite otherwise than they had reported them, about Midnight surrounded the House where the two Former had lodg'd, who withstood their Fury for many Hours. *Huntington*, who was advis'd of this Misfortune, could not possibly favour them, for a certain Priest to divert the Assault had set Fire to some Houses in the Village, which occasioned *Huntington's* Men to fly. So that unfortunate *Kent* and *Salisbury*, after many desperate Wounds, had their Heads stricken off and sent to *London*. Twenty Nine of their Company were taken Prisoners, and sent to *Oxford*, where King *Henry* resided, and had publick Justice pass'd upon them. The Earl of *Huntington* was taken by Chance, after endeavouring often to get into *France*, but always driven back by contrary Winds, and was brought to the late Duke of *Gloucester's* House, where his Head was struck off. The Abbot of *Westminster* fled from his Monastery, but being seiz'd by an Apoplexy, escaped common Execution. The like happened to the Bishop of *Carlisle*, who suddenly dy'd of a violent Fever. Infinite was the Number of others that dy'd; and the High-Ways were fill'd with the Heads and Quarters of miserable Wretches.

In the Fourth Year of his Reign, several Conspiracies were discover'd in *Embrio*; all which were supported, by Calumnies and Forgery: For by the First, *Henry's* Actions were traduc'd in Libels, and by the Second, *Richard* was reported to be still alive, to raise a new Head of Separation. *Henry*, thus wounded in his Honour and endangered in his



his Person, resolved to spare none upon whom the Crime or Concealment was found. The first that felt the Hand of his Justice was a Priest of *Wye*, with whom was found a List of Names which he collected, supposing them such as out of Gratitude and Conscience would hazard all for King *Richard*; which Vanity of his created great Trouble to many, till it appeared that he wrong'd them, and that they were Persons utterly ignorant of the Man and Matter; upon which he was drawn and hanged. *Walter Baldock*, Prior of *Laund*, met with the like Fate, who confess'd he had conceal'd the Treason of others, tho' he had not acted himself. A Friar Minor also being taken with some others of his Order, was asked, *what he would do if King Richard were alive and present*; he confidently reply'd, *he would fight for him to the last Minute of his Life against all Opposers*, for which he was drawn and hanged in his Friar's Weeds. Nor did this hard Fortune fall only upon the Clergy, for Sir *Roger Clarendon* Natural Son to the Black Prince, together with an Esquire and Servant of his, finished their Affections to King *Richard*, by suffering a shameful Death. Not long after Eight Friar Minorites were taken, convicted, hanged and beheaded for the same Cause; and this occasioned the King to be a severe Master towards the whole Order.

Not long after this the Family of the *Pierces* being displeased with the King, for demanding of them such *Scotch* Prisoners as had been taken at *Nesbit* and *Halydown*; and likewise envying his Wealth and Felicity, confederated

derated with *Owen Glendour* against him, and resolv'd to to set up the Earl of *March*, whose Deliverance out of Prison they procured. The first who appear'd in Arms was the valiant *Hotspur*; to whom repaired the Earl of *Worcester*, leaving the young Prince of *Wales* and that Prince's Household over whom the King had placed him. And now the Torch of War was lighted up and began to blaze. They issu'd Letters and Manifesto's declaring their Reasons for thus appearing in the Field, as, " That the publick Money had not been  
 " employ'd in the real Defence of the King-  
 " dom; that by Reason of malicious Infor-  
 " mations to the King, they could not with  
 " Safety approach him; that they too kep  
 " Arms only to secure their own Persons  
 " and see the Kingdom better governed. But their real Designs were not only to oppose King *Henry*, but likewise to share the Kingdom between Three Persons, the Earl of *March*, the Earl of *Northumberland* and *Owen Glendour*. On the other Side King *Henry*, attacked with such unexpected Dangers, defend- ed his Cause by Letters, *That he was extream- ly surpriz'd, since the Earl of Northumberland and his Son had the greatest Part of the publick Money delivered to them, for the Defence of the Borders against Scotland, why they should make that the Ground of their pretended Grievances.* And to remove all Pretences of Fear from the Conspiratots, he sent to the Three *Pier- cies* a safe Conduct under his Royal Seal, by which they might come and return without Molestation; but unbridl'd Rashness despi- sing the Royal Clemency, push'd them on to the

the Height of Rebellion. In the mean Time the King arm'd with the utmost Expedition against his Enemies, who engage near *Shrewsbury*. Never was Battle fought on both Sides with more martial Rage and Bravery; in which the two mighty Champions *Hotspur* and *Douglafs* resolv'd to encounter the King in Person, and accordingly rush'd forward with a Fury scarce to be equal'd; but the prudent Earl of *Dunbar* drew the King from the Ground he had chosen, and probably saved his Life, for the Royal Standard was overthrown. But the King whose Valour was equal to his Danger, by his undaunted Courage restor'd the Battle, killing no less than Six and Thirty with his own Hand. After Three Hours dreadful Conflict, the Fall of the great *Hotspur* put an End to this Tragick Scene, who Riding in Defiance of Death and all Difficulties, was slain by an unknown Hand. And the King gain'd the Victory with the Loss of Sixteen Hundred Men upon the Twenty First of July. The Earl of *Worcester*, the Baron of *Kinderton* and Sir *Richard Vernon* were taken Prisoners, and all Three beheaded two Days after the Battle; and the Body of *Hotspur*, tho' once permitted to be bury'd, was afterwards quarter'd and sent to several Parts of the Kingdom. Thereafter the King advancing to the City of *York*, sent for the Earl of *Northumberland* to repair thither in Person, who accordingly obey'd, arriving with a small Train in the Nature of an humble Petitioner. He had his Life pardon'd, tho' his Estate and Liberty was abridg'd, the King only allowing him necessary



sary Maintenance: But soon after his being thus humbled, the King thought it Policy to take him into Favour and restore him to his Estate.

But the Coals of the former Northern Rebellion were not so fully extinguish'd, but by removing the Ashes that covered them, new Sparks began to appear; for Envy and some Accidents had so infected the Eyes of some of the Nobility, that they could not bear the Sight of King Henry's Grandeur. Among whom *Thomas Mowbray* Earl Marshal, was principal, who drew *Richard Scrope* Archbishop of York into a Conspiracy, as likewise the Old Earl of *Northumberland*, the Lord *Bardolf*, the Citizens of York, with great Numbers of common People to assist in their Cause, which was gloss'd with the specious Pretence of redressing publick Abuses, arising from the King's Mismanagement. The Earl of *Westmorland* pretending to approve of the Quarrel, found Means to get the Earl Marshal and the Archbishop into his Possession, and made a very acceptable Present of them to the King at York, where they were publicly beheaded. The King likewise vigorously pursu'd the Earl of *Northumberland* and the Lord *Bardolf*, with an Army of Thirty Seven Thousand Men; but they unable to resist so mighty a Power, took *Berwick* for their Refuge. The King with his usual Expedition march'd to that Place, but before his Arrival, they in great Fear fled into Scotland. The Town of *Berwick* soon yielded upon hard and desperate Terms, for they were partly hang'd and partly imprison'd.

**The Rebellions in ENGLAND. 837**

In the mean Time, the Wars of *Wales* were manag'd by young Prince *Henry*, where *Glendour* prosper'd for a short Time; but the unfortunate Earl of *Northumberland* and the Lord *Bardolf* raising new Forces in the North to assert their Rights, were encounter'd by the Sheriff of *Yorkshire*, who after a sharp Conflict slew the Earl in the Field, and so wounded the Lord *Bardolf* that he dy'd shortly after. Thereafter the King arriv'd at *York*, where he find many and put others to Death, answerable to the Nature of their Crimes. The Bishop of *Bangor* and the Abbot of *Ailes* who were taken Prisoners, met with different Fates according to the Diversity of their Habits, the Abbot being taken in Armour was hang'd, the Bishop being taken in his own Cloaths was pardon'd. The Heads of the two Peers were cut off, fix'd upon Spears and erected on *London Bridge*. Here ended all King *Henry's* Domestick Troubles.

**HENRY V. 1413.**

**HENRY** the Fourth was succeeded by his Eldest Son *Henry* of *Monmouth*, whose glorious Reign was free from Domestick Troubles: But in the Second Year of his Reign, a Discovery was made of a dangerous Conspiracy form'd against him in the Army, as he was ready to embark for *France*, which might have put an inglorious End to all his Designs. For the French embracing this Opportunity of working upon some of the dissatisfy'd Spirits of some of the English Nobility, managed a private Intrigue with

Richard Earl of Cambridge Brother to the Duke of York, Henry Scroop Lord Treasurer, and Sir Thomas Grey a Privy Counsellor, animating them to conspire against the Crown and Life of their Prince. To carry on which Design, a vast Sum, no less than a Million of Gold, was remitted to them. The Design of these Men was to raise an Army, and carrying Edmund Earl of March with them into Wales, to persuade him to assume the Government, as true Heir to the Crown, in Defiance of Henry of Lancaster as an Usurper; yet still they were to make use of Richard's Name, and Sir Thomas Grey was to procure one out of Scotland, who nearly resembl'd him, in order to induce young Percy to joyn them with a competent Force. The grand Design being discover'd by the Conspirators to the Earl of March, he foreseeing the dismal Consequences to the Nation, generously reveal'd it to the King himself, who was extremely startled at the Ingratitude of those Men he had so signally favoured. Having soon secured their Persons, he in a publick Assembly of his Nobility and Officers, with the just Resentment due from injured Majesty, told them, *That since they conspired to murder him, the Head and Father of the People, it was not to be doubted but that they also had mark'd out all those brave Men for Slaughter, to their Country's Ruin, and their own perpetual Infamy: Therefore since they had been guilty of such an execrable Crime, they should without Mercy receive the just Demerits of their Villany.* Whereupon the Criminals were led out to Execution, which was perform'd in the Sight of the whole Army.



Army. The Earl of Cambridge had wrote a submissive and patheticall Letter to the King to obtain his Pardon, but could gain no greater Favour than to be beheaded with Sir Thomas Grey, while the Lord Scroop was put to the most infamous Punishment of Hanging Drawing and Quartering.

**HENRY VI.** 1422.

**HENRY** the Sixth succeeded his Father when he was but Nine Months old. The first open Rebellion that discover'd itself against him, was rais'd by one John Cade about the Twenty Ninth Year of the King's Reign. This Fellow fill'd himself in his Writings the Captain of Kent, and Captain Mendall; and his Pretences like those of other Rebels, were the publick Good of the Nation. The King rais'd an Army of Fifteen Thousand Men, and march'd in Person against the Rebels: But Cade politrickly withdrew his Forces into Sevenoke Wood, upon Notice of which, the King retired again to London; but the Queen longing for a Dispatch, sent the two Staffords Sir Humphrey and William, with many fiery Youths of the Court, to follow the Rebels; but they found the Kentish Captain ready to receive them, who in the first Encounter slew Sir Humphrey and afterwards his Brother, and put all the rest to Flight. Thereafter the Rebels increasing, the King with his Queen retired to Kenelworth Castle in Warwickshire; and the Kentish Captain taking Advantage of the King's Absence, entered London, where the orderly Behaviour of

of himself and his Company, gained him a great Opinion among the common Sort of People. And now assuming to himself the Place of Chief, he commanded a certain Number of Arms and Horse, and a Thousand Marks of Money to be brought to him at the Charge of the *Genoese, Venetian and Florentine* Merchants. The next Morning the Lord Say was hurry'd to the Standard in *Cheapside*, and had his Head stricken off, which upon the End of a Pike was born before the Captain to *Mile-End*, where he went to confer with the Rebels of *Essex*, and in the Way meeting with Sir *James Cropper* High Sheriff of *Kent* and lately marry'd to the Lord Say's Daughter, he also caus'd his Head to be taken off and carry'd before him in Derision.

The Chief of the Citizens now finding the intolerable Insolence of *Cade*, secretly sent to the Lord *Scales* in the Tower for Assistance; and the brave *Matthew Gouge* with some Forces in the Night came to them. The Rebels who quartered in *Southwark*, upon this ran furiously to Arms; but the Citizens made good and defended *London Bridge* against them, tho' with the Firing of several Houses, and the Loss of many honest and valiant Men, for the Conflict continu'd all Night till Nine in the Morning. To give quick Dispatch to these Troubles, Impunity was proclaim'd for all Offenders, who soon were dispers'd. And *Cade* afterwards attempting new Troubles in *Kent*, a Thousand Marks were promis'd to him who kill'd or took him, and *Alexander Eden* a Gentleman of *Kent* had the good For-

*the* **Rebellions in ENGLAND.** *of*

Fortune to discover and kill him by main Force at *Hotchfield* in that County. His Body was brought to *London* and beheaded and quartered; his Head set upon *London Bridge*, and his Quarters dispersed in divers Places in *Kent*. And afterwards Eight Persons out of Five Hundred, found guilty, were executed.

The *Kentish* Rebellion being thus ended, far greater and more dangerous Troubles succeeded, which had their prime Source from *Richard Duke of York*, who at length took up Arms against the King. He and his Adherents publish'd to the World, *That they desiz'd all Honour and Obedience to the King; but only would remove certain ill Men from about his Person, who oppress'd the People and made a Prey of the Publick.* The King soon gather'd a more numerous Force than the Duke, and march'd against him; but Matters were made up at this Time, without coming to an Engagement. However, this Calm did not long continue; for the Duke of York again raised a considerable Army in *Wales*, from whence he marched towards *London*, and engaged the King's Forces at *St. Albans*, where there was a bloody Battle fought. The King himself was shot in the Neck with an Arrow, the Duke of *Buckingham* and the Lord *Scales* in the Faces, and the Lord *Dorset* was so wounded, that he was forc'd to be carry'd away in a Cart. The King's Army being at length all dispers'd or slain, the King himself unguarded, fled to a poor Thatcht House not far off. Thereafter both Parties came again to a hopeful Agreement.



But soon after the Civil War began again, and a second Battle was fought at *Blore-Heath* near *Mucklestone*, between the Earl of *Salisbury* and the Lord *Audeley*. The Fight was long and bloody, but at length King *Henry's* evil Fortune gave the Advantage to the Earl of *Salisbury*, where besides the valiant Lord *Audeley* himself, were slain no more than Two Thousand Four Hundred Men.

Sometime after the King march'd against his Foes, who being strongly entrench'd before *Ludlow*, designed to attack him. Upon the Approach of the Armies, the King generously caus'd a Proclamation to be made, That whoever would abandon the Duke of *York*, should be received into Mercy and have Pardon. Upon this the brave *Andrew Trollop* finding himself deceived by the Duke and his Party, who presented nothing but the King's Preservation, abandoned the Duke's Camp at Midnight and with all his select Men not only presented their Service to the King; but also discover'd all the Duke's Counsels. This extremely discouraged the Duke, who resolved to betake himself to Flight: And himself with his Younger Son the Earl of *Rutland* hastened into *Ireland*. The Earl of *March* his Eldest Son and Heir, the Earls of *Salisbury* and *Warwick* with much Difficulty escap'd to *Calais*. The Multitude that serv'd under the *Triumvirate* found Mercy; but their Tenants were many of them executed, maim'd, or for the most Part pillaged. The Cause was pursu'd most severely against the great Offenders in the next Parliament, where the foremention'd Earls with the Duke of *York*,

*York*, Two or Three Lords, Nine Knights and certain others, were publickly attainted of High Treason, and their whole Estates confiscated.

But the *Yorkists* by their subtil Remonstrances did a third Time appear with a vast Army, with whom the King engag'd at *Northampton*, and the Lord *Grey of Ruthen* running over to the Earl of *March's* Side, was defeated and taken Prisoner, after an obstinate fight for Five Hours, wherein the King lost Ten Thousand Men.

The News of this Battle being convey'd to the Duke of *York* in *Ireland*, he now throws off the Mask and coming to *London* with all Expedition, claims the Crown of *England*. The Controversy was at length determined by Agreement in Parliament. The Substance wherof was, "That *Henry* should enjoy the Name and Title of King, and the Possession of the Kingdom during his Life; and if he either dy'd, or resign'd, or forfeited the same, by violating any Part of the Contract then made, then the said Crown and Dignity should immediately be devolv'd upon the Duke of *York*, and the lawful Heirs of his Body. But the Queen then in the *North*, would by no Means allow of this Determination. And having gathered together a considerable Force, by the Assistance of the Dukes of *Somerset* and *Exeter* and other Royalists, gave the Duke of *York* Battle at *Wakefield*, where within half an Hour, his whole Forces were defeated, and himself with many of his dear Friends beaten down and slain. The Lord *Rutland* his Younger

Son, was taken by the Lord Clifford, who barbarously struck a Dagger into his Heart, and us'd the dead Body after an ignominious Manner.

The Earl of *March*, Son and Heir to the deceas'd Duke of *York*, hearing of this tragical Adventure, with a Mind full of Grief and Revenge and an Army of Twenty Three Thousand Men, resolv'd to march against the Queen. But being inform'd that the Earl of *Pembroke* Half Brother to King *Henry*, and *James Butler* Earl of *Ormond* and *Wiltshire*, had with them a great Force of *Welsh* and *Irish*, to intercept his March, he resolv'd first to try his Fortune with these two Earls, and accordingly engag'd them at a Place call'd *Mortimers-Cross* near *Ludlow*, where, after an obstinate fight, he obtain'd a compleat Victory, with the Death of Three Thousand Eight Hundred of his Enemies; the Earls of *Pembroke* and *Wiltshire* saving themselves by Flight. But Sir *Owen Tudor*, Father to the Earl of *Pembroke* and Husband to King *Henry* the Fifth's Queen, with several other Prisoners of Note, were beheaded, as a Sacrifice to the Manes of his Father the Duke of *York*.

The Queen on the other Side march'd towards *London*, with an Army of *Scotch*, *Welsh* and *Irish*, as well as *English*. Advancing near to *St. Albans*, they were inform'd, that the Duke of *Norfolk* with the Earl of *Warwick* and the King in Person, were prepared to give them Battle; and both Armies accordingly engaged. The Queen got the Victory by the Treachery of *Lovelace* who made a Stand with the main Battle of which he had the

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mand; and Three and Twenty Thousand Men were kill'd on the Spot.

But the Earl of *March* upon the Queen's returning towards the Northern Parts march'd directly to *London*; where he was receiv'd with the universal Applauses of the People, and was proclaimed King, upon the Fourth Day of *March*, after King *Henry* now near Forty Years of Age had possess'd over an unfortunate and inglorious Reign of Thirty Eight Years. He was at last murdered in the *Tower* by the Duke of *Gloucester*, who stabb'd him to the Heart with his own Hands, or at least commanded it to be done in his Presence.

## EDWARD VI. 1461.

AFTER the Accession of *Edward* Earl of *March* to the Throne, there were Six more bloody Battles fought betwixt the two Houses, which we shall briefly recite, in order of Time.

The first was fought on *Palm-Sunday* early in the Morning betwixt *Caxton* and *Towton*. King *Henry's* Army was Sixty Thousand, and King *Edward's* scarce Forty Thousand. For Ten Hours together, the Victory hung in suspense. But at length after a most pitious Slaughter, the Northern Men began to hope for Safety only in Flight, their Courage being dismay'd with the Sight of so many eminent Men slain before their Eyes. For the Earls of *Northumberland* and *Westmorland*, the Lords *Beaumont*, *Dacres*, *Grey*, *Scales* and *Wells*, and many others of greatest Reputation for their

their Rank and Courage, had already fallen: The Dukes of *Somerset* and *Exeter* seeing all Things desperate, the greatest Part of the Army slain, the rest broken and flying, posted to *York* to carry the fatal News to the unfortunate King *Henry*. In no Battle since the Conquest was ever shed so much *English* Blood: So that the Fields were not only dismally stain'd, but the Rivers also ran red, for a great Distance. For in this and the preceding Day were slain no less than Thirty Six Thousand Seven Hundred Persons, all of one Nation, many near in Alliance, some in Blood fatally divided by Faction, yet all animated by the same Zeal, to maintain their Princes Right. After this great Victory, King *Edward* caus'd the Earl of *Devonshire* and Three others to be beheaded at *York*, and to have their Heads put on the same Places, where the Queen formerly caus'd to be put the Heads of his Father, the Earl of *Salisbury* and others. And at the Conclusion of the Parliament the same Year *John* Earl of *Oxford*, *Aubrey Vere* his Son, Sir *John Tiddenham* Knight, *William Tyrrel* and *Walter Montgomery* Esqrs. were without Answer convicted of Treason and beheaded.

The second Battle was at *Hexam*, where Viscount *Montague* commanded King *Edward's* Forces, who so valiantly attack'd King *Henry's* Camp, that after a great slaughter he totally defeated their Army, with the Loss of Two Thousand Men. The unfortunate King *Henry* fled into *Scotland*; but the Duke of *Somerset*, the Lords *Roos*, *Mollins* and *Hungerford* with other Persons of Note, as unfortunately

unately fell into the Hands of their Enemies, and were afterwards, according to the usual Proceedings of these miserable Times, beheaded in cold Blood. The next Battle was at *Danes-More*, within Three Miles of *Bradbury*, where the Earl of *Pembroke* commanded King *Edward's* Forces. His Brother *Sir Richard Herbert*, shutt'd on with a prodigious Impetuosity, so behaved himself, that the true Story of his Valour is not to be exceeded in fabulous Romances. For forcing his Way thro' the Enemies Troops with his devouring Sword, he twice pass'd the Length of their Army, returning to his own Men, if not untouch'd, yet without any mortal Wound. The Victory seem'd wholly on his Side, till *John Chapoulin*, a Servant to the Earl of *Warwick* coming in with a few fresh Soldiers and crying out *A Warwick! A Warwick!* so much terrify'd the *Welsh*, that believing *Warwick* was arriv'd with all his Forces, they betook themselves to Flight, leaving a bloody Field, covered with Five Thousand slain upon the Spot. The Earl of *Pembroke* with *Sir Richard* his Brother and many other Gentlemen of Note were beheaded at *Banbury*. The Earl of *Revers* and his Son *John* were likewise surpris'd by those of *Northampton*, and beheaded without any Process of Law. In the mean Time, the Victors retired to the Earl of *Warwick*, who had with the Duke *Clarence* the King's Brother risen in Rebellion against King *Edward*. They were ready to come to Battle with all speed, had not some great Persons interpos'd to find some Way of Accommodation.



commodation, which made King Edward too secure, for *Warwick* being certify'd by Spies of the Negligence of his Guards and all the rest, set upon the King by Night, and without any Resistance took him Prisoner, and immediately sent him to *Middleham* Castle in *Yorkshire*, there to be kept by the Archbishop of *York* his Brother. But the King's affable Temper made the Archbishop treat him so liberally, that he soon found Means to escape.

The next Battle betwixt the two Houses was at *Stamford*, where the *Yorkists* prevailed, and took Sir *Robert Wells*, who commanded the Enemies Army, with several others Prisoners, who with many others of Note were all put to Death. In this Battle, at least were slain Ten Thousand Men.

The fifth Battle after King Edward's Accession to the Crown, was at *Barnesfield*. For Six Hours the Victory continu'd doubtful, tho' it often seem'd to the Earl of *Warwick's* Side, till at length Error alone brought Disorder upon his Army, and that a final Overthrow. For the Earl of *Oxford* giving his Men a Star with Streams for his Device, rais'd a Mistake in the Army, that they were Part of the Enemy, whose Badge was the Sun. This caus'd their own main Battle to attack them fiercely on the Back, as they were successfally passing forwards. Upon which Error *Oxford* suspecting Treason in *Warwick*, immediately fled with Eight Hundred Men, and King Edward soon took the Advantage of this Disorder, and forc'd them all to flink back. *Warwick* and his Brother *Mortimer* rush'd in amongst their Enemies and both, soon

soon oppress'd with Numbers, fell, and with them the Spirit of the whole Army. For King Edward obtained a complete Victory, with the Death of Ten Thousand of his Adversaries, and Fifteen Hundred of his own Men.

King Edward had hardly Time to breathe after the Battle of *Barnet*, when he heard Queen Margaret was landed from France with Forces to engage him, to whom repair'd a vast Confluence of People out of the Western Parts. The Duke of Somerset, who commanded the Army, encamped at *Fewkesbury*, and hastily drew up in Three Batties, without waiting for the Earl of *Pembroke's* Arrival. King Edward being come within Sight of his Enemies, likewise drew up in Three Lines of Battle, and a Signal given, an obstinate Battle began, which ended in the entire Defeat of the Queen's Party; for there were slain on her Side John Lord Somerset, the Earl of *Devonshire*, the Lord *Wenlock*, Sir John Delves, Sir Edward Hampden, Sir Robert Whittingham and Sir John Lewkenor, with Three Thousand Men besides. This was the Twelfth Battle fought between the Houses of Lancaster and York, and the Sixth and last that was fought in King Edward's Reign, in which or soon after both the Queen and her Son Edward were taken Prisoners. But the Duke of Somerset, the Prior of *St. John's*, with many Knights and Esquires took Sanctuary in the Abby and other Places in the Town, notwithstanding which they were violently taken out and arraigned before the Duke of Gloucester, who that Day sat Countable of England, where

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they were without Mercy or regard to Blood condemn'd to Death, which they immediately suffered upon a Scaffold erected in the Town. With these Lords dy'd Twelve worthy Knights, besides others of inferior Note. Young Prince *Edward* was barbarously murdered in the King's Presence, by the Dukes of *Clarence* and *Gloucester*, the Marquis of *Dorset* and the Lord *Hastings*.

### EDWARD V. 1483.

IF we consider the Nature of *Edward* the Fifth's Reign, who was but Twelve Years and Five Months old when his Father King *Edward* dy'd, it may rather be call'd an Interregnum, or perhaps more properly the Tyranny of *Richard* the Third, who from the Death of King *Edward* the Fourth, both ruled as a King and raged as a Tyrant.

### RICHARD III. 1483.

THE tyrannical Rule of *Richard* the Third soon rais'd a Conspiracy against him, to dethrone him, wherein some of those who rais'd him to the Throne, were principally engaged. The Duke of *Buckingham* and the Bishop of *Ely* mutually engaging to advance *Henry* Earl of *Richmond*, the Duke rais'd an Army against King *Richard*; which being to pass the *Severn* to joyn their Adherents, there happen'd such a Deluge of Rain, that the *Severn* was impassible for Ten Days, which made the Soldiers who were almost drown'd and famish'd to disband of themselves; not-with-



withstanding the Authority and Persuasions of the Duke, who thereupon retired near *Shrewsbury* to the House of one *Humphry Bannister*, a Servant of his, who afterwards betray'd him, so that he was apprehended and beheaded in *Shrewsbury*.

And now *Henry* setting sail from *Harfleet* with about Two Hundred Men, the Fifteenth of *August*, arriv'd at *Milford-Haven* the Seventh Day following, from whence he advanc'd towards *Shrewsbury*, on his Way to which Place there met him *Sir Rice ap Thomas* a Man of great Command in *Wales*, with a great Body of Men to side in his Quarrel. From *Shrewsbury* the Earl march'd to *Newport*, where *Sir Gilbert Talbot* met him with Two Thousand Men from the Earl of *Shrewsbury*. Thence he pass'd to *Litchfield*, where he was honourably receiv'd. King *Richard* on the other Hand, set forth with an Army to meet the Earl, which he did near unto *Market Bosworth* in *Liecestershire*; the Leading of his Van-guard was committed to the Duke of *Norfolk*, and his own Battalion was furnished with the best approv'd Men of War. The Earl of *Richmond's* Front was commanded by the Earl of *Oxford*, the Right Wing by *Sir Gilbert Talbot*, the Left by *Sir John Savage*, the main Battle by the Earl himself and his Uncle *Jasper*. Both Parties were animated by their Principals in formal Speeches. At length the King having Intelligence that Earl *Henry* was but slenderly accompany'd, he therefore with his Spear in the Rest ran violently towards the Earl, in which Rage at the first Brunt he bare down and overthrew the

Earl's Standard, slew Sir *William Brandon* the Bearer thereof, next encounter'd Sir *John Cheyny*, whom he threw to the Ground, thereby making an open Passage to the Earl himself. In which very Instant when the Earl was like to be distress'd, the Lord *Stanley* sent in Aids of fresh Soldiers. These entered the Fight with such Courage, that they put *Richard's* Forces to the Flight; when himself closing his Helmet, said to some that brought him a swift Horse for his Escape, *This Day shall finish all Battles, or else I will finish my Life*; So thrusting into the Throng of his Enemies, manfully fighting, dy'd on the Spot. There dy'd with him that Day the Duke of *Norfolk*, the Lord *Terror*, and *Charley*, Sir *Richard Radcliffe*, Sir *Robert Brackenbury*. The Number of both Parties slain in the Field were Four Thousand. Sir *William Conestey* and Two other Persons of Quality were taken, and Two Days after were beheaded at *Liechester*. King *Richard's* Crown, that was taken amongst the Spoils of the Field, the Lord *Stanley* Earl of *Derby* set upon Earl *Harry's* Head. *Richard's* slain Body was brought to *Liechester* in an ignominious Manner, where it was bury'd.

## HENRY VII. 1485.

**HENRY** was crowned King upon the Thirtieth of *October*. But he was scarce fix'd on the Throne before the *York* Faction set up an Impostor, one *Lambert Symnel*, to personate one of King *Edward's* Sons. Which *Lambert* they sent into *Ireland*, where the *I-*

with adhered to him; and the Dutchess Dowager of Burgundy Sister to Edward the Fourth, likewise sent him Two Thousand Men under the Conduct of Colonel Swart. These with the Irish, and some English landed in Lancashire at the Pile of Bowdoy. Not far from Newark, near to a little Village called Skels, the King with his Army encountered them, where the Fight continued doubtful for Three Hours; but at last the Victory fell to King Henry. On Lancaster's Part, were slain the Earl of Lincoln, the Lord Lovell, Sir Thomas Brughton, Colonel Swart, and Maurice Fitz-Thomas, with Four Thousand Soldiers. On the King's Side fell not any Man of Honour, but almost half his Vanguard was slain. Amongst the Prisoners that were taken, was the Countess's King, who had been a Scholar in Oxford. Lambert confessed his Parents to be mean Persons, and of a mean Calling. Him the King condemned to his Kitchen or Scullery, and at length promoted him to be One of his Falconers, in which Estate he continued to his Death. Sir Simon Subote, or Richard Simon, his Tutor, was condemned to the Dungeon and perpetual Shackles.

In the Thirteenth Year of this Reign, a Rebellion was kindled at Cornwall, on the Account of the Subsidy, which they refused to pay as an unjust Exaction. The Heads of this Insurrection were Michael Joseph a Friar, and an Attorney named Thomas Flamnoch. Under these Two, Multitudes of the Country People took Arms; and having met the Lord Audley at Wells, they made him their General,



ral, and then marched into Kent; where they encamped between Greenwich and Eltham.

The King when he saw them encamped near London, resolved to attack them, and to free himself from all Hazards of Fortune, he divided his Forces, which far exceeded theirs, into Three distinct Bodies. He assigned the first to the Earls of Oxford, Essex and Suffolk, the second to the Lord Chamberlain, and commanded the third himself. That the Rebels might be unprovided, the King caus'd it politically to be reported in the Army, that he would not fight till Monday Morning; but towards the Saturday Evening, the Lord Darnley set upon some Troops upon the side of the Hill, which could not make good their Station; so that quitting their Posts, it was easy for the King's Troops to mount the Hill, make themselves Masters of the Plain, and fall in with the main Body. The Rebels being all armed and without Commander, were in a short Time defeated; whereof Two Thousand were slain, and a great Number taken Prisoners. The Lord Audley was beheaded on Tower-Hill; and the Attorney and Blacksmith executed at Tyburn. All the rest were pardoned by Proclamation.

About this Time, King Henry was disturb'd by another Impostor call'd Peter Warbeck, the Son of a converted Jew, a Youth of a princely Personage. This Peter or Perkin as some called him, under the Title of Richard Plantagenet, Second Son of King Edward the Fourth, had great Honour given him by the Kings of France and Scotland. And other Per-

Persons of Eminency in *England* were so deluded, that they believed him to be the true *Richard*, and thereupon sought to advance him to the Crown, which cost some of them their Heads; as the Lord *Fitz-Walter*, Sir *Simon Montford*, Sir *William Stanley*, Lord Chamberlain, and some others. *Perkin* being in *Ireland*, was invited by the *Cornish* Men to come amongst them, promising that at his Arrival, they would venture their Lives for him. He accepting their Invitation, landed at *Witsand Bay* in *Corrwal*, where some Thousands of People resorted to him. When King *Henry* heard of his Landing, he assembl'd his Forces, and sent out his Spies to observe the Track of Prince *Perkin*, who had now besieged the loyal City of *Exeter*, which valiantly withstood him, till they were reliev'd by *Edward Courtney* Earl of *Devonshire* and others, that forced the Rebels away from before the City. The Rebels now understanding the great Preparations that were made against them, began many of them to drop away from their new King; and *Perkin* himself secretly fled and took Sanctuary at *Beaulieu* in *New-Forrest*, out of which Sanctuary, upon the King's Offer of Life to him and Oblivion of his Crimes, he gladly came forth, and put himself in the King's Hands, by whose Order he was conveyed to *London*, where the King by curious and often Examination of him, came to the full Knowledge of all he desired. *Perkin* afterwards endeavouring to make his Escape out of the *Tower* with the Earl *Warwick*, was condemned and drawn to *Tyburn*, where he was executed; and the Earl  
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of Warrent toll his Head upon Tower-Hill.  
Thus dy'd the last Heir Male of the Blood  
and Surname of Plantagenet.

## HENRY VIII. 1509.

**I**N the Ninth Year of King Henry the  
Eighth's Reign, there happened a great Ri-  
ot and Sedition in the City of London, from  
some Citizens and Apprentices of the poorer  
Sort, who being offended that all the chief  
Customers were won from them by the Dil-  
igence and Industry of Strangers, and others  
pretending to have received some Affronts  
and Indignities from them, found some Occa-  
sion to make an Inturrection against them;  
and the rather, because the seditious Sermons  
of one Dr. Bell, by the Intigation of John  
Lincoln a Broker, had not a little incited them.  
The Apprentices and others being gathered  
together in great Numbers, began with break-  
ing open some Prisons, from whence they  
took diverse Persons committed thither for  
abusing and hurting of Strangers: Nor could  
the Mayor or Sheriffs then present hinder  
this Outrage; nor Sir Thomas More, who  
much respected by them, as being late Judge  
of the Sheriffs Court, and a Native of the  
City. The Prisoners now let loose ad-  
vise the Multitude to run to the House of  
one Mentas a Gentleman, much hated by  
them; where they killed some, chased the  
rest, and plundered all his Goods; from  
whence they went to other Strangers Houses,  
which they pillaged in the like Manner. The  
Cardinal Wolsey hearing of this, and not  
being



being much more in the Peoples Favour than the Strangers, fortify'd his House with Men and Ordnance ; but the Lieutenant of the Tower proceeded farther, and discharged some of the great Pieces among them. This, with the Completion of their design'd Revenge, caus'd them about Three a Clock in the Morning to disperse and go home. But on their Way, they were first apprehended by the City Officers, and afterwards by some Followers of the Earls of *Shrewsbury* and *Surrey* ; who hearing of this Disorder, and taking the Inns of Court Gentlemen with them, cleared the Streets of this unruly Company. The Beginning of the Sedition was hereupon examined, and *Dr. Beke* and *John Lincoln* sent to the Tower. About Three Days after the Duke of *Norfolk* and the Earl of *Surrey* his Son, with about Thirteen Hundred armed Men, came into the City, and joyning with the Lord Mayor, proceeded legally against the chief Offenders, to the Terror of the Citizens, who were the more apprehensive, because the Duke of *Norfolk*, upon the killing of a Priest of his, was reported to have said, *I pray God, I may once have the Citizens in my Power.* By the Statute of the Second of *Henry* the Fifth, they were all found guilty of High Treason: But however much Mercy was shewed ; for of Two Hundred and Seventy Eight Prisoners, only *Lincoln* and Three or Four more were hanged, drawn and quartered ; and about Ten more were hanged on Gibbets erected in the Streets. All the rest, in their Shirts bound with Ropes and Halters about their Necks, were brought to *Westminster-Hall*,  
I where

where the King sat attended with his principal Nobility. And when the Cardinal had charged them with the Greatness of their Offences, they all cry'd out, Mercy! Mercy! Upon which the King, by the Mouth of the Cardinal, pardoned them all; which Clemency purchased the King no small Love amongst the People.

In the Thirteenth Year of his Reigh, Fifteenth Hundred Twenty One, Cardinal *Woolsey* who managed the King with great Dexterity, and gained such an Ascendant in the Nation, that he could sacrifice the greatest Men to his Resentments, made the Force of them fall on *Edward Stafford* Duke of *Buckingham*, eminent both for his high Blood and large Revenues. The Cardinal had long hated him for speaking certain detracting Words of him; and it was farther said, that the Duke once holding a Bason to the King, the Cardinal, as soon as the King had done Washing, dipped his Hands into the same Water, which raised such Indignation in the Duke, that he poured the Water upon his Feet; and this so provoked the Cardinal, that he declared *he would sit upon his Skirts*. To make a Jest of this vulgar Expression, the Duke appeared before the King the next Day in a Garment without a Skirt, and told his Majesty, *That it was by Way of Prevention*; which added new Fuel to a Fire that could not be extinguished without his Blood; so dangerous is it for great Men to descend to Jestings. To remove all Supporters, the Cardinal had caused the Duke's chief Friend and Father-in-Law the Earl of *Northumberland* to be

be imprisoned upon some suggested Crimes, and his Son-in-Law the Earl of *Surrey* to be sent Deputy into *Ireland*, that his Friends being sequestered from him, he might be exposed to the worst Sort of Accusations. The Duke being in this Condition, the Cardinal treated secretly with one *Charles Knevet*, whom the Duke had angrily dismiss'd from his Stewardship, and who thereupon discovered his late Master's Life, confessing that the Duke by Way of Discourse, was accustomed to say, "That if King Henry dy'd without Issue, he would obtain the Crown, and that he would punish the Cardinal: Besides, that he had spoken the same to *George Nevil*, Lord *Abergavenny*, who had marry'd his Daughter. The Duke being descended from the Daughter of the Youngest Son of King *Edward* the Third, 'twas thought sufficient Reason for his Accusation, which was so aggravating to King *Henry*, that he ordered him to be apprehended and try'd by his Peers: and the Duke of *Norfolk* appointed Lord High Steward for the Time. Being arraigned, he was accused by *Knevet*, a Monk called *Hopkins* and others, of several treasonable Designs to obtain the Crown of *England*; for which he was found guilty of High Treason, and the Duke of *Norfolk* with a Flood of Tears, deliver'd the formal Sentence of Execution. To which the other submitted, but with a Declaration of his Innocence, and Resolution not to sue the King for his Life. Whereupon he was brought back to the *Tower*, where all the Favour he received, was to die the Death of a Nobleman, and be beheaded.



In the Year Fifteen Hundred Twenty Five, being the Nineteenth of this Reign, Commissions being granted out unto all the Counties of England, for levying the Sixth Part of every Lay-Man's Goods, and the Fourth of the Clergy's, the People were so disgusted, that they were ready to break out into Rebellion, alledging not only their own Poverty, but that the Commissions were against Law. The King upon this resolved to disavow the whole Proceeding; and by Letters to all Parts declared, *He expected nothing from them, but by Way of Benevolence.* Notwithstanding under the Name of Benevolence, he required great Sums of all his Subjects, and particularly the Citizens of London. This Way was likewise opposed by many, especially in the Country, where some Persons took up Arms; but by the Persuasion of the Dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk, they submitted themselves, and were brought to London and there secur'd. The King persisting in his Intention not to punish any on that Occasion, brought the Matter to the Council-Table, where the Cardinal by Way of Apology, declared, *He had done nothing without advising with the Judges, &c.* but the King declaring, that he was assured his Subjects were richer than he found them by this Commission, all the Blame was charged on the false Informers, and Pardon granted to those who deny'd the former Benevolence. Hereupon the Delinquents were brought to the Star-Chamber, where after a severe Reprimand given them, they were pardoned. The Dissolution of the lesser Monastries in the Twenty Eighth Year of this  
King's

King's Reign, begat great Discontents among all Ranks of People. The Nobility and Gentry, who often provided for their Younger Children and Friends in those Sanctuaries, were sensible of their Loss: the People who had been fed at the Abbots Tables, and in Travelling found them to be Places of Reception for Strangers, immediately saw the Inconveniency: But the more Superstitious, who thought their Friends must now lie still in Purgatory without that Relief procured by their Masses, were out of Measure offended at these Proceedings. To remove this general Discontent, the King was advised to sell these Lands at very easy Rates to the Nobility and Gentry, and to oblige them to retain the wonted Hospitality, which would be both grateful to them and pleasing to the People. And there were Sixteen Monastries, and Sixteen Nunneries, which were more regular than the rest, re-founded, or rather reprieved, till the general Dissolution came afterwards. But all this did not so pacify the People, but still there was a great Outcry fomented by many of the Clergy, who alledged that King Henry being an heretical Prince, deposed by the Pope in the preceding Year, was no longer to be acknowledged. The People continued quiet, till they had reaped their Harvest; but in the Beginning of October, Twenty Thousand rose in Lincolnshire, led by one Dr. Mackrel Prior of Barlings in that County, and disguised like a Cobler. They sent a Paper of their Grievances to the King, in which they complained of some Acts of Parliament, of the Suppression of many religious Houses, of mean and ill Counsellors and bad Bishops; pray-

praying the King to redress the Grievances by the Advice of the Nobility, &c. The King sent the Duke of *Suffolk* to levy Forces against them, and to give an Answer to their Petition, declaring, "That it was not the Business of the Multitude to direct Princes what Counsellors to chuse. The Religious Houses were suppress'd by Law. He required them to submit to his Mercy, &c. At the same Time there was a more formidable Insurrection in *Yorkshire*, which moved King *Henry* to use much Expedition in the Affairs of *Lincolnshire*. He sent them secret Assurances of Mercy, which so prevailed on the greatest Part, that they dispersed themselves, and the most obstinate repaired to them in *Yorkshire*. *Mackret* the pretended Cobler and some few others were taken and executed.

As to the *Northern* Rebellion, the Distance of the People from the Court, gave them Time to form themselves into a better Method: One *Ask*, a Gentleman, commanded in Chief, and performed his Part with great Dexterity. Their March and Progress was called *The Pilgrimage of Grace*, having on their Banners and their Sleeves the Five Wounds of our Saviour; and they took an Oath to restore the Church, suppress Hereticks, preserve the King and his Issue, and drive from him all mean born Men and ill Counsellors. In a few Days their Number increased to Forty Thousand; and meeting with no Opposition, they forced the Archbishop of *York* and the Lord *Darcy* to swear to the Covenant, and to go along with them. They invested *Shipton*, but the Earl of *Cumberland* secured it against



again them ; and Sir *Ralph Evers* bravely held out *Scarborough* Castle, tho' for Twenty Days together, he and his Men had no Provisions, but Bread and Water. There was also an Insurrection in all the other *Northern* Counties, against whom the valiant Earl of *Shrewsbury* made Head, and the King sent several of the Nobility to his Assistance, particularly the Duke of *Norfolk*, who joyn'd him with some regular Troops. These Noblemen possess'd themselves of *Doncaster*, and resolv'd to keep that Post till the rest of the Forces ordered by the King should come up to them ; for they were not in a Condition to engage with such Numbers of desperate Men ; and it was probable on any Misfortune, the People would have risen on all Sides. Therefore the Duke of *Norfolk* resolv'd to keep entirely in *Doncaster*, and suffer their Rage as well as Provisions to spend, and then by gaining a little Time, they might probably fall into Factions, and so dissolve their Power. They were now decreased to Thirty Thousand ; but the King's Forces were not above the Sixth of that Number. The Duke of *Norfolk* politickly proposed a Treaty, and caused some to go amongst them as Deserters, and spread Reports, that their Commanders were making private Terms for themselves. They were persuaded to send their Petitions to the Court ; and the King, to satisfy them of their Security, discharged a Rendezvous that he had appointed at *Northampton*, and sent them a general Pardon, excepting Six by Name, and reserving Four to be afterwards named. But  
this

this threw them all into such Apprehensions, that it made them more resolv'd and desperate; yet the King to give his People some Content, put out Injunctions, requiring the Clergy to continue the Use of all the Ceremonies of the Church. At length Three Hundred were employed to carry the Rebels Commands to the King, which were, " A  
 " general Pardon to be granted; a Parlia-  
 " ment to be held at *York*, and Courts of Ju-  
 " stice erected there: That some Acts of  
 " Parliament might be repealed: That the  
 " Princess *Mary* might be restored to her  
 " Right of Succession, and the Pope to his  
 " wonted Jurisdiction. That the Monastries  
 " be restored; That *Audley* Lord Chancellor,  
 " and *Cromwell* Privy Seal be removed from  
 " the King, and that some of the Visitors of  
 " Monastries be imprisoned, for Bribery and  
 " Extortion. But these being rejected, the  
 Rebels reassumed their Courage; upon which  
 the Duke of *Norfolk* advised the King to  
 gentle Methods, who sent him a general Par-  
 don without any Exception, to be us'd ac-  
 cording to his Discretion. In the mean Time,  
 the Rebels finding that with the Loss of  
 Time they lost Strength, resolved to attack  
 him and force him from *Doncaster*: But at  
 Two several Tryals, when they had agreed  
 to pass the River, there fell such Rains as  
 made it impracticable; which being magni-  
 fy'd as a Miracle, caused very discouraging  
 Impressions. The King sent a long Answer  
 to their Demands, in which he assured them,  
 he would live and die in the Defence of the  
 Christian Faith: But the Multitude ought  
 not

*the* Rebellions in ENGLAND. 65

" Multitude ought not to prescribe to him  
" and the Convocation in that Matter. As  
" to the Monastries, he gave the same An-  
" swer, as he had done to the Men of *Lincoln-*  
" *shire*. For the Laws, they were not to pre-  
" sume to alter what was established; and  
" he had governed them Twenty Eight  
" Years, with Security to their Estates and  
" Clemency to their Persons. And whereas  
" it was reported, that when he began to  
" Reign, he had many of the Nobility in his  
" Council, and now none but those of mean  
" Extract: This was false, for at first he  
" found but Two Noblemen of his Council  
" and at present, there were Seven Temporal  
" Lords and Four Bishops in it. He  
" found it necessary to have some that  
" were conversant in the Laws of *England*  
" and Treaties with Sovereign Princes;  
" therefore he had called *Audeley* and *Crom-*  
" *well* to the Board. If they had any Com-  
" plaints to make of any about him, he was  
" ready to hear them; but would not suffer  
" them to direct him what Counsellors to  
" employ; nor could they judge of the Bi-  
" shops that were promoted, who were un-  
" known to them. He charged them not to  
" believe Lies, nor to be governed by Incen-  
" diaries, but to submit to his Mercy. Ac-  
" cordingly on the Ninth Day of *December*  
" he signed a Proclamation of Pardon with-  
" out any Restrictions.

When this was fully known, and the Rage  
of the People abated, they were willing to  
take the Advantage of it; and all the Arti-  
fices that some of the Clergy and the Com-



manders could use, had no other Effect; but to draw such Numbers together, as brought them under new Guilt, and caused them to consult the Benefit of the King's Pardon. Many came in and renewed the Oaths of Allegiance, promising all future Obedience. And *Ask* was invited to the Court, and well treated by the King, that he might learn from him all the secret Correspondents they had in other Parts of the Kingdom; for the Disposition to rebel was general, only all had not the like Opportunities. It was particularly believed, that the great Abbots cherished the Rebellion, for which some of them were afterwards try'd and attainted. The Lord *Darcy*, earnestly pleaded his great Age, being then Four-score; and the eminent Services he had done the Crown for Fifty Years together, and that he was compelled for his own Preservation to go along with the Rebels; but he was put into Prison. This gave the Clergy an Occasion to infuse into the People, that the King's Pardon was precarious; so that Eight Thousand flocked together again, and endeavoured to surprize *Carlisle*; but the Duke of *Norfolk* set upon them and routed them, and by Martial Law hanged the Captains and Seventy other Persons. Others designed to have surpriz'd *Hull*, but were likewise defeated, and many of them executed. Many other small Insurrections were soon dispersed; and the Duke of *Norfolk*'s Vigour and Vigilance was so remarkable, that he was ready for them in all Places, before they could make their Numbers considerable; so that in a few Months

Months from the Beginning, the Country was absolutely all at rest. *Ask* left the Court without Leave, but was soon retaken and hanged at *York*. The Lords *Hussy* and *Darcy* were arraigned at *Westminster*, and condemned by the Peers, the one for the *Lincolnshire*, and the other for the *Yorkshire* Rebellion. *Hussy* was beheaded at *Lincoln*, and *Darcy* upon *Tower-Hill*; the last being much lamented, upon the Account of his Old Age and former Services. After these and other Executions, the King proclaimed a general Amnesty, by which the Nation was again put in a quiet Condition; and the threatening Storm dissipated without the Effusion of much Blood, but what was drawn by the Sword of Justice. At the same Time, *James* King of *Scotland*, returning from *France* with his new Queen, Daughter to the *French* King, and touching on the Coast of *England*, many of the People fell down at his Feet, begging him to assist them, and he should have all; but he was then bound up by his Father-in-Law; and therefore he returned Home without giving them any Encouragement. And thus ended this Rebellion, which was chiefly promoted by the Romish Clergy, under the Pretence of Religion.

In the Thirty Third Year of King *Henry's* Reign, a little Rebellion appeared in *Yorkshire*, in which Sir *John Nevil* was an Accomplice. The King took Order to suppress it in due Time, and commanded that Knight to be put to Death at *York*. Shortly after followed the Execution of the Countess of *Salisbury*, which was probably occasioned by

that Rebellion, as being judged of her Son Cardinal Poole's Instigation. The Old Lady about Seventy Years of Age being brought to the Scaffold erected in the Tower, was commanded to lay her Head on the Block; but she positively refused, saying, *So should Traitors do, but I am none.* Nor did it avail, that the Executioner told her, *It was always Customary;* but turning her grey Head every Way, she cry'd out, *If you will have my Head, get it as you can:* So he was constrained to strike it off barbarously. And with her ended the last of the Right Line of the famous *Plantagenets.*

## EDWARD VI. 1547.

**T**HE Imperial Crown of England, that had for Thirty Seven Years been worn by the most martial and vigorous Monarch of the Age, at length devolved upon a Child of little more than Nine Years; but a Child of of these promising Vertues and admirable Abilities, that might well bespeak him a Man in Wisdom and Understanding. King Henry had in his Will nominated Sixteen Persons to be his Executors, and Governors of his Son, till he should be Eighteen Years of Years. And it was now proposed, that One should be chosen out of the Sixteen, to whom Ambassadors should Address themselves, and who should have the chief Direction of Affairs; but should be constrained from Acting without the Consent of the major Part of the rest. Accordingly the Earl of *Hartford* Lord great Chamberlain was declared, *The Governor of the*



the King's Person, and the Protector of the Kingdom.

In the Second Year of King Edward's Reign in the Month of September, the Queen Dowager dy'd, who had marry'd the Lord Seymour Lord High Admiral, the Protector's Brother, a Man of an aspiring ambitious Temper. Upon which he boldly made his Addresses to the Princess *Elizabeth*. But finding it vain to expect, that his Brother and the Council would consent, and knowing that if she marry'd without their Consent she would be excluded the Succession, he resolv'd to secure the King's Person, till he had made a sufficient Change in the Government. Accordingly he fortify'd his House in the Country, prepar'd Magazines, list'd great Numbers of Men, and openly complain'd, *That his Brother designed to enslave the Nation and govern all*; and he also enter'd into a Treaty with several of the Nobility, who envy'd his Brother's Greatness; promising that they should be of the Council, and that he would dispose of the King in Marriage to One of their Daughters. The Protector employ'd many to divert him from these desperate Designs; but his restless Ambition being incurable, he was oblig'd to proceed to Extremities, and to send him Prisoner to the Tower. Many were sent to persuade him to a better Temper of Mind, and his Brother was again willing to be reconcil'd to him, if he would retire from the Court and publick Business; but he was still violent and intractable. Upon which, many Articles were drawn up against him, both of his Designs against the State,

State, and of his Malversation in his Office. The greatest Part of the Council went to the *Tower*, and examined him; but he refus'd to give any particular Answers, but declared he expected a fair and open Tryal. The whole Council upon this, acquainted the young King with it, and desired him to refer the Matter to the Parliament then sitting; which he granted with a Caution and Respect, becoming One of his riper Years. Accordingly the Attainder of the Admiral was began in the House of Lords, and all the Judges and the King's Council declared their Opinions, that the Articles produced against him, were Treason. When the Evidence was produced, many of the Lords gave it so fully, that all the rest with one Voice consented to the Bill; only the Protector for the sake of natural Pity, desired Leave to withdraw. The Lords dispatched it in Two Days; but in the House of Commons many argued against such unjust Attainders without a Trial, or bringing the Party to make his Answers. At length a Message was sent from the King, desiring them to proceed as the Lords had began; and the Lords who had given Evidence against him in their own Houses, were sent down to the Commons; Upon which the Bill passed, and had shortly after the Royal Assent. On the Seventeenth of March 1549, the Council signed a Warrant for his Execution, to which both the Lord Protector and the Archbishop of *Canterbury* set their Hands. And on the Twentieth, he was beheaded on *Tower-Hill*.

At this Time, a sort of Contagion of Rage, and Violence ran over all the Commons of England: the Nobility and Gentry, finding more Advantage by the Trade of Wool, than by their Corn, did generally inclose their Grounds, and turn them to Pasture; and so kept but few Servants, and took large Portions of their Estates into their own Hands. By these Means, the Commons were under terrible Oppressions, and feared to be reduced to great Misery. Some proposed a sort of *Aggrarian Law*, for regulating this threatening Inconvenience; and the King himself wrote a Discourse about it, that there might be some Equality in the Division of the Soil among the Tenants. The Protector being naturally just and compassionate, was a great Friend to the Commons, and much complained of the Oppression of the Landlords. There was therefore a Commission issued out, to enquire concerning Inclosures and Farms, and whether those who purchased the Abbey Lands, performed it or not; and what Encouragement they gave to Husbandry. This having but little Effect, the Commons rose in most Parts of the Nation, but chiefly in the Inland Countries; but they were easily dispersed, with a Promise that their Grievance should be redress'd. The Protector, contrary to the Council's Opinion, set out a Proclamation against all new Inclosures; and for indemnifying the People for what was past. Commissioners were also sent into most Counties, to hear and determine all Complaints; but the Power that was given to them was so Arbitrary, that the Landlords call'd



call'd it an Invasion of Property, when their Rights were thus subjected to the Pleasure of such Men. The Commons understanding that the Protector was so favourable to them, soon fell into greater Outrages than ever; insomuch that it was afterwards objected to him, that the Convulsions of *England* were chiefly owing to his ill Conduct; in which he was the more blamed, because he acted against the Opinion of the Majority of the Council.

The most dangerous Commotions, which continued so long as to gain the Name of Rebellion, were those of *Devonshire* and *Norfolk*, Counties remote from each other; but such as seem'd to have communicated Counsels, for carrying on the Design. The first was in *Devonshire*, where the Insurrection was very formidable, the Superstition of the Priests joyning with the Rage of the People; so that they soon became Ten Thousand strong. The Lord *Russel* at first was sent against them with a small Force, and was ordered to try if he could compose the Disturbance without Bloodshed; But *Arundel* a Man of Quality commanded the Rebels, that proved not a loose Body of Men easily dissipated. They boldly sent their Demands to the Court, "That the Old Service and Ceremonies might be restored; That the Act of the Six Articles, and the Decrees of General Councils, might again be in force; That the Bible in *English* might be called in; That Preachers should pray for the Souls in Purgatory; That Cardinal *Pope* should be restored; That half the Abby Lands

“ men of a hundred Marks a Year should  
“ have but one Servant: And they desired a  
safe Conduct for their chief Leaders, in or-  
der to redress their particular Grievances :  
Afterwards they moderated their Demands,  
only to Points of Religion. Archbishop  
*Cranmer* wrote a large Answer to these,  
“ Shewing the Novelties and Superstition of  
“ those Rights and Ceremonies, and of the  
“ whole Way of Worship, of which they  
“ were so fond : That the Amendments and  
“ Alterations, had been made according to  
“ the Scriptures, and the Customs of the  
“ Primitive Church ; and their being fond  
“ of a Worship, they did not understand,  
“ and desirous to be kept still in Ignorance,  
“ without the Scriptures, shew'd that their  
“ Priests had a greater Influence over them,  
“ than the common Reason of all Mankind :  
“ As for the *Six Articles*, that Act had never  
“ pass'd, had not the King gone in Person to  
“ the Parliament, and argued for it ; yet he  
“ soon saw his Error, and was slack in exe-  
“ cuting it. After that, there was a high  
threatning Answer sent them in the King's  
Name, condemning them for their Rebelli-  
on, and blind Obedience to their Priests : In  
which the King's Authority under Age, was  
largely set forth ; because the Pretence of  
the King's Minority, caused the People in  
general to believe that their Insurrection was  
no Rebellion. In Conclusion, “ They were  
“ earnestly invited to the King's Mercy, as  
“ others had done, whom the King had not  
“ only pardon'd, but had redress'd their just  
“ Grievances.

But this giving no Satisfaction, the Rebels marched with all their Forces to besiege Exeter, carrying before them in their March the consecrated Host, born under a Canopy; with Crosses, Banners, Candlesticks and other Utenhils. But all these had no Effect upon the Citizens, who were no less gallantly resolved to make good the Town, than the other were desperately bent to force it. To which Resolution of the Citizens, the natural Defences of the City, gave not more Encouragement, than some insolent Speeches of the Rebels, boasting, *That they would shortly measure all the Silks and Sattens in it, by the Length of their Bowis.* They set Fire to the Gates, and wrought Mines, but all to no Effect, at length they resolved to try how far Famine would prevail, and after many Days Siege, they reduced the Citizens to great Extremities. They were forc'd to feed upon Horses, especially for twelve Days; during which time they were encourag'd by an Aged Citizen, who brought out all his Stores, and declar'd, *That he would eat one Arm, and fight with the other, before he would yield to the Seditious.* After they were reduc'd to these Necessities, the Lord Russel, with his small Army, resolved to attack the Rebels; who had possess'd themselves of a Bridge behind him, both to surround him and to hinder others from joyning him: But he suddenly marched back, and soon beat them from the Bridge, with the Loss of Six Hundred of their Men; by which Attempt, he perceived how easy a Work it would be to disperse them. Shortly after the Lord Gray, and



and *Spinola*, commanding some *German*s, joyning him, he proceeded to raise the Siege of *Exeter*. They had block'd up the Ways, and left Two Thousand Men to keep a Bridge, where the King's Forces were to pass; but the Lord *Russel* bravely broke through them, and killed about a Thousand of them; upon which they were forced to raise the Siege, and retire to *Lanceston*. Having pursu'd them with new Slaughter, the Lord *Russel* entered the City of *Exeter*, on the Sixth of *August*, where he was joyfully received by the half starved Citizens, whose Loyalty the King rewarded with an Increase of Privileges and the Manor of *Eviland*. This every Day has been ever since observed amongst them, for an annual Feast in perpetual Gratitude to God, for their happy Deliverance. *Arundel*, and the rest of the Heads, were taken and executed; and the Vicar of *St. Thomas*, a principal Incendiary, was hanged on the Top of his own Tower, in his Popish Attire, and his Beads at his Girdle. And thus was the Rebellion suppress'd in the *West*, to the great Honour of the Lord *Russel*, who finished it with little or no Loss.

In the mean Time, the *Norfolk* Rebellion broke out, on the Twentieth Day of *June*, beginning at a Place call'd *Attleborough*; but was not considerable either for Power or Numbers, till the Sixth of *July*; when it was greatly increased by *Robert Ket*, a Tanner of *Windham*, who undertook to lead the Multitude. These Men at first pretended only against Inclosures, and Religion seem'd to be as a Reserve; but when their Numbers were

greatly increased, their Insolence was such, as nothing would satisfy them, but the total Suppression of the Gentry, and the placing new Counsellors about the King, and other Things to be done in Favour of the old Religion. Concerning which they made large Remonstrances both to the King and People. The Sheriff of that County came boldly to them, and required them in the King's Name to disperse and go home; but had he not been well mounted, they would have put him to a cruel Death. After this they marched directly towards *Norwich*, and possess'd themselves of *Monsbold-Hill*, which gave them a full Prospect over, and a compleat Command upon that large City, where they had many Friends. To this Place great Numbers resorted out of *Suffolk*, as well as *Norfolk*, many for Want, and many upon a turbulent Mind and weak Notion of *Levelling the World*; and in all Parts Beacons were fired, and Bells rung, to promote the Insurrection; so that in a short Time, the Multitude increased to Twenty Thousand, which were rather to be esteemed a Number than an Army. Their Companies ranged thro' all the Neighbouring Parts, and took what Goods they thought fit; and besides Deer out of Parks, they brought such Quantities of Beasts and Provisions, that a Fat Sheep was sold for Four-pence. This was interpreted as a present Plenty; but it afterwards made such a Scarcity, as could not be repaired in several Years. Their Actions were disguis'd with the usual Coverings in Time of Rebellion, which were Religion and Justice:

stice : For the former, they had one *Coniers* for their Chaplain, an idle vicious Fellow ; but Dr. *Parker*, afterwards Archbishop of *Canterbury*, coming to preach before them, so fully laid open their notorious Impieties, that he was in Danger of his Life. As for Justice, *Ket* assumed to himself the Power of Judicature ; and in Imitation of the ancient *Druids*, under an old Oak, since call'd *The Oak of Reformation*, together with Two of each Hundred in the County, did such Justice as might be expected from such a Judge, and in such a Camp.

The Marquis of *Northampton* was sent against them, but with Orders to keep at a Distance from them, and to cut off their Provisions ; for it was hoped that without much Bloodshed, they might in Time be reduc'd. But at the same Time, there was an Insurrection in *Yorkshire* ; the Commons being farther encouraged by a Prophecy, That there should be no King nor Nobility in *England*, that the Kingdom should be ruled by Four Governors chosen by the Commons, who should hold a Parliament in Motion, to begin at the *South* and *North* Seas ; which they apply'd to the *Devonshire* Men on the *South* Seas, and to themselves on the *North* Seas. They at first Rising fired Beacons, and so gathered the Country, as if it had been for the Defence of the Coasts ; and meeting Two Gentlemen and Two others, they without Provocation murdered them, and left their naked Bodies on the Road. At this Time, the Marquis of *Northampton* was



was unsuccessful in Norfolk, for having Eleven Hundred Men with him, he did not strictly observe his Orders, but entered the City of *Norwich*. The Rebels rejoiced at an Occasion to engage with him, and fell in upon him the next Day with great Fury; and the Place not being tenable, he was forced to quit it, with the Slaughter of a Hundred of his Men, among whom was the Lord *Sheffield*, who was much lamented. The Rebels also took about Thirty Prisoners, fix'd great Part of the City, and returned in Triumph to their Camp.

This being understood at Court, the Protector suffered his most dangerous Enemy, the valliant Earl of *Warwick*, to march against the Rebels with Six Thousand Foot, and Fifteen Hundred Horse, that were prepared for an Expedition to *Scotland*. He with Difficulty entered the City of *Norwich*, but was scarce able to defend it, nor was he well assured of the Inhabitants. But he entertain'd the Rebels with frequent Skirmishes, and so cut off their Provisions, that having wasted all the Country about them, they forsook the Hill, and retired to a Place called *Dassing-Dale*, where, by a Prophecy, they expected great Success. Here they came to a Battle, where the Rebels placed in the Front all the the Gentlemen they had taken Prisoners, designing that they should be first slain; but the brave Earl of *Warwick* so managed his Men, that without any great Hurt to the Gentlemen, he defeated the Rebels with the Death of above Two Thousand of them. And now again the Earl offered them Pardon, if they

they would submit; but notwithstanding all their Losses, they continued still obstinate. At last the Earl sent to know if they would accept of a Pardon, if he should come in Person to offer it them. This so sensibly moved them, that they answered, *That* *honor* *him* *to be so honorable, that from himself they would embrace it.* Whereupon the Earl sending to them, and causing their Pardon to be read, they threw away their Arms, and cry'd Long live King Edward I. The Principals of them were taken Prisoners, and afterwards executed: Robert Ket was hanged in Chains upon Norwich Castle, and his Brother William upon the Top of the High Church Tower at Windham. Nine of his chief Followers were hanged on as many Boughs of the Oak of Reformation, where Ket held his Courts; of whom Two were seducing Prophets, and One a most excellent Canonier, who had done extraordinary Service to the Rebels. This great Deliverance was celebrated in the City of Norwich, by a publick Thanksgiving on the Twenty Second Day of August, which has been since annually observed. The Rebels in Yorkshire, who were no more than Three Thousand in Number, hearing of this Success, accepted of the Pardon that was sent them; only some of the Ring-leaders, continuing obstinate, were executed at York. After this, the Protector published a general Pardon, in the King's Name, of all that had been done, with some few Exceptions; tho' many of the Council oppos'd it, as Mercy to profuse; hedges it better to keep the Commons under the Lash, than the

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Protector and his Friends thought, that in this Case, Fear was a greater Cause of Disorder than Impunity. Thus was England delivered from one of the most threatening Storms that had broke out for many Years, in which Deliverance, the singular Prudence and Temper of the Protector seems to have had no small Share. After this, there were no more publick Commotions, that deserved the Name of Rebellions, in the short Reign of the pious King *Edward*, who dy'd in the Sixteenth Year of his Age: But as to the Reign itself, it was generally tumultuous, and distracted by Parties and Factions.

MART 1553.

**A**FTER the Decease of King *Edward* the Sixth, the Council got the Lady *Jane Grey* to be proclaimed Queen in London, and sent Letters to Queen *Mary* to forbear any Claim. But on *July* the Twelfth, the Earl of *Oxford*, and some other Lords came in to Queen *Mary's* Assistance, and proclaim'd her at *Norwich*; and Two Days after, the Duke of *Northumberland* marched out of London, with an Army to oppose the Queen: But whilst his Lordship was on his Way, several Lords raised the Commons of *Buckinghamshire*, *Oxfordshire*, and *Northamptonshire*, and the Tide curped at London, where *Mary* was proclaimed. Many of the Lords also deserted the Duke, insomuch that the Duke himself thinking it easiest to swim with the Stream, even fairly in the Market-Place at *Cambridge*, proclaimed *Mary* Queen of *England*.

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The Way thus made free, the Queen repaired to *London*; where the Duke of *Northumberland* was arraign'd and condemn'd: and tho' Pardon was promis'd him, if he would recant the reform'd Religion, which he did, yet the Executioner made him shorter by the Head. The Lady *Jane Grey*, and the Lord *Dudley* her Husband, were likewise beheaded within the *Tower*, and soon after the Lady *Jane's* Father, *Henry Duke of Suffolk*, was beheaded on *Tower-Hill*, for promoting an Insurrection to hinder the Queen's Marriage with *Philip of Spain*: And his Brother, the Lord *Thomas Grey*, was some Time after beheaded in the same Place. Against this foresaid Match with *Spain*, many Combinations were made, and many Persons in divers Places of the Realm were up in Arms. And amongst the rest, Sir *Thomas Wyatt*, with the *Kentish Men*; who with about Five Thousand Men advanced to *Southwark*, which he fortify'd. And *London* was fortify'd against him, and the Draw-Bridge cut down. But *Wyat* march'd by Night round about by *Kingston*, thinking that Way to have surpriz'd the City on the sudden. However his coming was discover'd, and Preparations on that side the City were made against him. The Earl of *Pembroke* possess'd himself of *St. James's*, which *Wyat* at his coming perceiving, march'd a little aside towards *Charing-Cross*, where the Lord Chamberlain and Sir *John Gage* stood to resist *Wyat*; but the *Kentish Men* forc'd their Opposers into the Gates of *White-Hall*, where was a great Distraction within, and no other Voice hear'd than *Treason, Treason*. Mean

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while

while *Wyat*, with such small Company as he had with him, halted to *Ludgate*, where he knock'd to have Entrance, but was debarr'd. In the Interim, these his Followers that had turned to *White-Hall* were dispers'd, and Twenty of them slain in the Conflict. *Wyat* returning from *Ludgate*, sat down upon a Stall against *Bell-Savage-Inn*, where he mus'd a while, then retired towards the Court, and was not oppos'd till he came to *Temple-Bar*, where began some Bickering, and *Wyat* yielded himself to *Clarencieux King at Arms*. About Fifty of his Fellow Rebels were hang'd in *London*, and Four Hundred more were led thro' the City with Halters about their Necks to *Westminster*, and pardon'd. Sir *Thomas Wyat* himself was beheaded on *Tower-Hill*. *Alexander Bret* and Twenty Two *Kentish* Persons more, were executed in divers Parts of that Country.

## ELIZABETH 1558.

QUEEN *Elizabeth*, the Restorer and Defender of the publick Profession of the Apostolical Religion in *England*, met with some Disturbance in the Beginning of her Reign, by the working Instruments of the Pope. The Earls of *Northumberland*, and *Westmorland*, *Leonard Dacres*, *Nevil*, &c. raised Forces, and with Banners display'd, entered *Burrow-Bridge*; *Morton* a Priest being their Ensign-Bearer, in whose Colours were painted the Cross and Five Wounds of Christ. But at the Approach of her Majesty's Forces, the Captains of the Rebels fled into

*the* **Rebellions in ENGLAND.** 83

into *Scotland*, and their Followers were taken without any Resistance. Of these Traytors were put to Death at *Durham*, by Martial Law, an Alderman, a Priest, Sixty Six Constables, besides others of them in other Places about.

A. D. 1570, *Leonard Dacres* of *Harley* renew'd the Rebellion, and had amongst his Followers many Women Soldiers; but upon a Moor nigh unto *Naworth*, the Lord *Hunsdon* disperſed them in Flight: *August* the Twenty Second of this Year, the Earl of *Northumberland* was beheaded at *York* for Rebellion.

In *Norfolk*, *John Throgmorton*, *Brook*, *Redman* and others sought to raise a Commotion, for which they suffered Death. Dr. *Story* was executed for his Treason 1571. *John Somervuil*, instigated by one *Hall* a seminary Priest to murder the Queen, was executed. *John Payne*, employ'd to murder her as she took her Recreation abroad, was executed. So was *Edmond Champion* a seminary Priest also executed. *Francis Throgmorton*, for endeavouring to procure an Invasion, and *William Parry*, who purpos'd to have murder'd the Queen, were both executed. *Henry Piercy* Earl of *Northumberland*, being privy to *Throgmorton's* Plot, for bringing in of Foreign Powers, was committed to the *Tower*, where he shot himself to the Heart. *Thomas Howard* being too busy in some Popish Designs, was also put to Death. And several other Popish Traitors were likewise executed, whose Names, Facts, and Places, for brevity sake are omitted.



*A. D. 1587 and February the Seventh, was Mary Queen of Scotland beheaded at Fotheringhay Castle, tho' to the great Discontent 'tis said of Queen Elizabeth. The Matters for which she was condemned in the Star-Chamber-Court at Westminster, were her pretending to the Crown of England, and her being privy to certain Treasons of Anthony Babington and others; but which she absolutely deny'd. Babington with Thirteen other Traytors were executed.*

After the Defeat of the Spanish Armado, the Pope and Spaniard had still Hopes that by one treacherous Means or other, they might at length effect the Ruin of the Queen and the Church of England, tho' the Ruin prov'd to their own vile Instruments. Patrick Cullen, hir'd to murder the Queen, was executed at Tyburn. Philip Earl of Arundel, and Sir John Perat were both condemn'd for High Treason, but dy'd by Course of Nature. Roderick Lopez a Spaniard, one of the Queen's Physicians, undertaking to Poison her, was with his Two Accomplices executed at Tyburn. Edmond Fork, and Richard Williams, hir'd by one Holt, an English Jesuit, were executed for their Treasons. Edward Squire was executed for the Impositioning the Pommel of the Queen's Saddle, and the Pommels of the Earl of Essex's Chair, tho' by God's Providence the Poison effected not what was design'd by it.

*A. D. 1599 the Earl of Essex, upon Complaints made against him by his Enemies, for his Mismanagement in Ireland, was by the Queen order'd to be committed to the Custody*

Custody of the Lord Keeper; but some Time after, was by her Majesty's Clemency quit of that Durance, and only commanded to his own House: But the Earl, of a daring Spirit, and presuming upon the Queen's high Respect towards him, resolv'd, by Force and Violence, to have personal Conference with her Majesty, and to remove from about her such as he deem'd his Enemies. To effect which, many of his Favourers assembl'd at his House, as well Noblemen and Knights, as Captains and other Officers. This being made known to the Queen, she thereupon sent Four of her Honourable Counsellors to the Earl to offer him Justice, and to command the Assembly to depart. But the Earl leaving these Counsellors under Custody in his own House, with his Attendants in a tumultuous Manner made into *London*, his Followers crying thro' the Streets, That the said Earl of *Essex* should have been murder'd by *Cobham*, *Cecil* and *Rowleigh*. Howbeit, instead of finding that Friendship in *London*, which he expected, the Earl was proclaim'd a Traytor in divers Places thereof. Wherefore he made hast back, and fortify'd his own House in the *Strand*; but after some little Resistance, yielded himself to the Lord Admiral, and was sent Prisoner to the *Tower*; and having been arraign'd and condemn'd at *Westminster*, he was *February* the Twenty Fifth, 1600. beheaded on the Green within the *Tower*. Captain *Lee*, Sir *William Merrick*, *Henry Cuff*, Sir *Charles Davors* and Sir *Christopher Blunt*, all suffered Death, as Accessaries and Abettors in the Offence.

**JAMES**

**JAMES I.** 1602.

**K**ING *James* the Sixth of Scotland succeeded Queen *Elizabeth* in the Crown of *England*; against whom, while Preparations were making for his Coronation, the Pope's Creatures combin'd (with some whom private Discontents had compos'd) to surprize the King's Person and Prince *Henry*, intending to retain them Prisoners in the *Tower*, or if they could not gain the *Tower*, then to carry them to *Dover* Castle, and there to keep them till they had brought the King to their own Terms, and compleated their Designs. The Persons accus'd for this Conspiracy, were *Henry Brook*, Lord *Cobham*, *Thomas* Lord *Grey of Wilton*, Sir *Walter Rawleigh*, Sir *Griffin Markam*, Sir *Edward Parham*, *George Brook*, and *Bartholomew Brooksby* Esqrs. *Anthony Copley*, Gentleman, *Watson* and *Clark* Priests. These were all convey'd to *Winchester*, (after the Coronation was over) and there had their Trials, and were all condemn'd by their Jury, save Sir *Edward Parham*. Howbeit only Three of them were executed, namely *Watson*, *Clark*, and *George Brook*.

*A. D.* 1604; A Proclamation came forth, commanding all Jesuits and seminary Priests out of the Land; but these Underminers of Church and State meant not to leave *England* so, but design'd to stay and triumph in its Ruins, purposing by one fatal Blow to destroy the King, the Prince, the Lords, both Spiritual and Temporal, the Knights  
and



and Burgeſſes of Parliament. And the Intent of the Traytors, when that damnable Villany ſhould be committed, was to ſurprize the Queen, and Remainder of the King's Iſſue, to bring in Foreign Powers, and to alter Religion.

Sir *Edward Baynham* an attainted Perſon, was ſent to the Pope, to acquaint him with the deſign'd *Gun-Powder-Treafon*, and *Thomas Winter* brought with him *Guy Fawks*, as a fit Executioner of their helliſh Project. Then they took Oath of Secrecy, ſwearing by the bleſſed Trinity and the Sacrament, they then were about to receive, never to diſcloſe this their Plot, or any of them deſiſt from the Execution thereof, until the reſt of the Conſpirators ſhould give Leave.

This done, Mr. *Thomas Piercy* hir'd a Houſe next adjoining to the Parliament-Houſe, pretending it to be for his Lodgings, and *Guy Fawks*, who chang'd his Name into *Johnſon*, was to be his Man, and to have the Keeping of the Keys of the Houſe. Then the Traytors began their Mine, and brought their Work under an Entry unto the Wall of the Parliament Houſe, underpropping all ſtill as they undermin'd. The Wall which was very hard, and Nine Foot thick, with great Labour they wrought half Way thro'; but then it happening that a Cellar was to be let, which was under the Parliament-Houſe, they ceaſed their Undermining, and *Thomas Piercy* hir'd the Cellar, for the laying in of his Winter Fewel, Wood and Coal. But inſtead of theſe, they ſtored it with Thirty Six Barrels of Gun-powder,  
upon

upon which they laid Bars of Iron, Logs of Timber, Massie Stones, Iron Crows, Pick-Axes, with the rest of their undermining Tools, and to cover all, Store of Billets and Faggots. So that now all was in Readiness against the next Meeting of the Parliament.

But, thro' the Goodness of God, the Plot was discovered, by a Letter directed to the Lord *Mont-Eagle* from an unknown Hand, somewhat unlegible and of strange Contents; who therefore hastes to *White-Hall*, there to impart it to the Earl of *Salisbury*, principal Secretary, who convey'd it to the King. His Majesty, after reading the Letter a Second Time, delivered his Judgment upon it, That he apprehended by the Words in the Letter, of receiving a terrible Blow this Parliament, and yet would not see who hurt them, that a sudden Danger by Blast of Gun-powder should be intended by some base Villain in a Corner. And therefore he wish'd, that the Rooms under the Parliament House might be thoroughly search'd, which accordingly was done, *November* the Fourth about Midnight; at which Time, Sir *Thomas Knevet* went to search those under Rooms, where at the Entrance into the Cellar, he found *Guy Fawkes*, cloak'd and booted, whom he apprehended; then entring the Cellar, he found therein under the Billets, Thirty Six Barrels of Powder; and when he came to search *Fawkes*, he found about him a Dark-Lanthorn, Three Matches and other Instruments for blowing up of the Powder. And the Villain no ways daunted, instantly confess'd himself Guilty, but so far from

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from Repentance, that he vow'd, if he had been found within the Room, he would have blown up himself and them all.

The News of the Plot's Discovery coming to the Ears of *Catesby, Percy, Rockwood, the Wrights, and Thomas Winter*, they posst into *Warwickshire* to other of their Associates, who now began an open Rebellion, pretending that all the Catholics Throats were appointed to be cut. Afterwards they were purposed to holden in *Hertfordshire*, where the Two *Wrights* making Opposition were slain, and *Thomas Percy* and *Robert Catesby*, fighting Back to Back, were both of them slain with One Bullet; others were then taken.

A. D. 1605. and January the Twenty Seventh, *Sir Edward Digby* Knight, *Thomas Winter*, *Robert Winter*, *Ambrose Rockwood*, *John Grant*, *Robert Keys*, *Thomas Bates* and *Guido Fawkes* were try'd, found guilty, and condemn'd, and on Thursday following, *Digby*, *Grant*, *Bates*, and *Robert Winter*, were hang'd and quarter'd at the West End of *St. Paul's*; and on Friday the rest were executed in the *Parliament-Yard* at *Westminster*.

A. D. 1606. March the Twenty Eighth, was *Henry Garnet*, Provincial of the *English* *Jesuits*, arraign'd for concealing the aforesaid Treason, and on May the Third was executed at the West End of *St. Paul's*.

## CHARLES I. 1625.

THE bloody and fatal Civil-Wars in the Reign of *Charles* the Martyr, began openly to break forth in the Year 1642.



tho' they had been long before a Brewing, by the Discontents and Differences between the King and his Parliament. On *August* the *Twenty Second*, his Majesty set up his Standard Royal at *Nottingham*. The Parliament also made great Preparations for opposing the King, and on *September* the *Sixth*, they order and declare, That the Arms they had or should take up for the Parliament, Religion, Laws, and Liberties of the Kingdom, should not be laid down again until the King should withdraw his Protection from such Persons as were and should be declar'd Delinquents, and should leave them to Justice, &c. so War was inevitable.

His Majesty's General, was the valiant Earl of *Lindsey*. The Parliament's General, was *Robert Devereux* Earl of *Essex*, and their Admiral the Earl of *Warwick*.

The first Blood that was spilt in this unhappy War, was rear unto *Hull*, whither some of the King's Forces were drawn; upon whom Sir *John Horham* the Governour (who refus'd the King Entrance) sally'd, taking some and killing others.

*October* the *Twenty Third*, the Two Armies met between *Keinton* and *Edge-Hill* in *Warwickshire*, and there engag'd in Fight; which was acted with such Fury, that near Six Thousand were slain upon the Place. The King had so much the better of the Day, as to keep the Field. Persons of Note slain on his Majesty's Side, were the Earl of *Lindsey*, and Sir *Edward Varney* Standard-Bearer; but Mr. *John Smith* immediately recover'd the Standard, for which he was Knighted

Knighted in the Field. On the Parliament's Part, were slain the Lord St. John of Blais, and Colonel Essex. From this Fight at Edge-Hill, the King march'd to Banbury, which was surrender'd to him, then enter'd Oxford triumphantly, and having secur'd that Place, advanc'd towards London, and at Brentford fell upon Two Regiments of his Enemies, taking about Five Hundred Prisoners. The Parliament, to increase their Numbers, declar'd that all Apprentices that would List themselves in their Service, should be secur'd from the Injury of their Masters, &c. by which Means, Multitudes of Youths forsook their Masters to Fight for the Parliament. They also invited their Brethren the Scots (as they call'd them) to come into their Aid; and animated the People against the King, by their seditious Preachers. In the mean Time, Commissioners met at Oxford in order to a Recodiliation, which came to no Effect.

A. D. 1643. The Queen in the Beginning of the Spring return'd into England, bringing considerable Supplies from France; and that Year, his Majesty became Master of the North and West, some few Garrisons excepted. In July the Fifth, Sir Ralph Hopton, with his Cavaliers, routed Sir William Waller at Lansdown near Bath; and July the Fifteenth, he again defeated him at Roundway-Hill by the Devizes, killing many Hundreds on the Place, and taking many more Prisoners. Bristol and Exeter were yielded to those Two Martial Princes, Rupert and Maurice, Sons of Frederick Prince Palatine of

the Rhine. The King besieg'd *Glanes* with a brave Army; but the Besieg'd under Colonel *Edward Massey* bravely defended themselves, till the Earl of *Essex* rais'd the Siege. Thereafter a sore Battle was fought betwixt the Two Armies at *Newbury*, where on the King's Part were slain the Earls of *Carnarvon* and *Sunderland*, and the Lord *Faulkland*; and *Essex* lost many of his Officers. This same Year many other Skirmishes happen'd, wherein sometimes one Party, and sometimes the other Party, had the Advantage.

January the Thirtieth, 1644. By his Majesty's Procurement, a Treaty was held at *Uxbridge*, wherein the Demands and Propositions of the Parliament were as unreasonable as before, and so it came to no Effect. The Parliament's Army was new modell'd this Year. Sir *Thomas Fairfax*, was constituted Captain-General, *Oliver Cromwell* Lieutenant-General, *Henry Ireton* Commissary-General, &c. after which Model, the King's Affairs began fatally to decline.

On Saturday, June the Fourteenth, 1645. Both Armies met at a Place near *Naseby* in *Northamptonshire*. His Majesty commanded the main Body, Prince *Rupert*, and Prince *Maurice* the Right Wing, Sir *Marmaduke Langdale* the Left. Of the Parliaments Army, *Fairfax* and *Shippon* had the Ordering of the main Battle, *Cromwell* the Right Wing, and *Ireton* the Left. Prince *Rupert* charg'd that Wing commanded by *Ireton* so home, that he disorder'd it, taking *Ireton* Prisoner, and for a while, he follow'd his Parliamentarians so



wards Marston; but in the Interim, Cromwell  
worsted the King's Right Wing, and then  
came in to Fairfax's Assistance, who together  
charged upon the King's main Body; and  
they no longer able to stand it out, retreat-  
ed out of the Field, leaving a compleat Vic-  
tory to the disloyal Party, who pursued  
them within Two Miles of Leicester, killing  
in their Way many Women that had follow-  
ed the Cavaliers Camp. On the Parliament's  
Side, were wounded and slain above One  
Thousand. On the King's Side were slain  
Twenty Knights Colonels, and Officers of  
Note, and Six Hundred private Soldiers;  
and of Prisoners were taken Six Colonels,  
Eight Lieutenant Colonels, Eighteen Majors,  
Seventy Captains with many other Officers,  
Four Thousand Five Hundred common Sol-  
diers, Thirteen of the King's Household Ser-  
vants, Twelve Pieces of Ordnance, Eight  
Thousand Arms, Forty Barrels of Powder,  
Two Hundred Carriages, Store of rich Pil-  
lage, Three Thousand Horses, the King's  
Standard, One of his Coaches, and his Ca-  
binet of Letters, which the Parliament caused  
to be made publick.

The same Year the Royalists were routed  
at several other Places, by the Parliamentar-  
ians.

A. D. 1646. His Majesty being reduc'd  
into a very low Condition, his Forces being  
beaten out of the Field in all Places, and his  
Garrisons daily surrender'd and taken, went  
in a Disguise to the Scotch Camp, that was  
then before Newark; the Scotch Officers en-  
gaging to secure both him, and as many of  
his

his Party as should seek for Shelter with them, and to stand to him with their Lives and Fortunes. However, after this the Scots deliver'd the King up to the *English* Parliament; but with this Caution, that no Attempt should be made upon his Majesty's Person, but being entertain'd at One of his own Palaces, he should be there treated with Propositions from both Nations, which should be speedily sent unto him.

From this Time, all the Endeavours that were made for Peace and Agreement between the King and his Parliament, prov'd ineffectual; tho' his Majesty did all that possibly could be done on his Side, yielding up a great Part of his Prerogative, and complying with many unreasonable Propositions and Demands. And at the Treaty at *Newport*, in the Year 1648, his Majesty condescended so far to the Parliaments Demands, that both Houses came to this Resolve, That the King's Concessions were a sufficient Ground for Peace. But this did exceedingly enrage the factious Members and Commanders of the Army, who now resolv'd to seize the King into their own Hands, and accordingly he was made a Prisoner in *Hurst* Castle. Then they fell to Purging the Parliament, apprehending Forty Members of known Integrity, and denying Admission to One Hundred and Fifty more, and suffering none to enter the House, save such whom they knew would serve their Designs.

Having brought Matters to bear, they constituted a Court for the Tryal of the King, giving it the specious Name of the  
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*High Court of Justice*; which said Court they empower'd to convene, hear, judge and execute *Charles Stewart King of England*. The House of Lords detested these Proceedings, so did the Parliament of *Scotland*; the Judges of the Land affirm'd it to be contrary to the known Laws and Customs of *England*, for the King to be brought to a Tryal; and the Presbyterian Ministers did both publicly and privately dissuade them from this horrid Action; but all was in vain,

For on *January* the Twentieth, 1649. His Majesty was brought before the High Court of Justice in *Westminster-Hall*, and the Charge was read against him, with all those reproachful Terms of Tyrant, Traytor, Murtherer, &c. But the King refusing to make his Defence, unless they could prove their Authority for judging him, the Court broke up for this first Time.

*January* the Twenty Second, the High Court met again, when the King being brought to the Bar, Solicitor Cook requir'd that he might be put upon it, either to give in his positive Answer, or else that the Charge against him might be taken for confess'd; the Substance of which Charge, was that he the said *Charles Stewart King of England*, had been the Occasion, Author, and Contriver of the Wars, and therein was guilty of all the Treasons, Murthers, Rapines, Burnings, Spoils, Desolations, Damages and Mischiefs to this Nation, acted or committed in the Wars, or occasion'd thereby. To this Charge, President *Bradshaw* requir'd the King's Answer; but his Majesty firmly persisting



filling in the disowning their Authority, and offering to give Reasons why he could not own their Court, the Court was adjourned to the next Day.

January the Twenty Third, the King was again brought before his pretended Judges, where he gave his Reasons why he could not own their Authority.

And January the Twenty Seventh, his Majesty was again brought to the Bar, where he still refus'd to own their illegal Court; but said, he had some Matters conducing to the Good of the People, which he desir'd to have the Liberty of speaking to the Members of both Houses; which the Court would by no Means yield unto, but commanded the Clerk to read the Sentence against him, viz. (after a short Preamble) For all which Treasons and Crimes mentioned in the Charge, the Court doth adjudge the said Charles Stewart, as a Tyrant, Traitor, Murderer and publick Enemy, to be put to Death by severing his Head from his Body. Which barbarous and unjust Sentence was accordingly put in Execution, upon the Thirtieth of January, 1649.

## CHARLES II. 1649.

**K**ING Charles the Second being debarred from the Succession in England, by the Rump Parliament, who murder'd his Royal Father, march'd in the Year 1651 from Scotland into England, by the Way of Carlisle, with about Sixteen Thousand Men, bending his Course by a swift March for the West of Eng.

England. And August the Twenty Third, his Majesty with his Army entered the City of Worcester, and Oliver Cromwell with all haste march'd after him; by the Way joyning with Fleetwood, Desborough, the Lord Gray of Groby, Lambert Harrison, and the Militia Forces of several Counties, so that his Army when he came to Worcester, could not amount to fewer than Eighty Thousand Men. In Leicestershire, the Earl of Derby had rais'd for the King near Fifteen Hundred Horse and Foot, against whom Colonel Lilburn march'd and routed them, taking many Persons of Quality; the Earl of Derby himself with much ado escaping to the King at Worcester; where, on the Third of September, his Majesty being furrounded by his Enemies, resolv'd to fall upon them with his whole Forces, which accordingly he did; and at the first made the disloyal Party retire somewhat disorderly, the King himself performing the Part of a valiant Soldier at the Head of his Horse. But at length, his Army being overpower'd by the numerous fresh Supplies of his Enemies, was put to the worst; his Horse flying again towards the North, and his Foot into Worcester, whither they were follow'd at the Heels by their Victors, who enter'd the City with them, which they plunder'd, killing or taking most of the Scots Prisoners. The Horse were likewise pursu'd, and a great Part of them taken. The Number of the King's Party slain, were judg'd to be about Three Thousand, and of Prisoners taken in the Whole near Ten Thousand, amongst whom were many Noblemen and Officers of Note.

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The King himself miraculously escap'd into *France*, after wand'ring about *England* in Disguise for Six Weeks. Some Attempts were made afterwards to restore the Royal Family, but to no Effect, until the Year 1660, when on the Twenty Ninth of *May*, he made his triumphant Entry into *London*, whither he was welcom'd with all possible Demonstrations of Joy. In *August* following an Act of Indemnity was pass'd, by which all that had been any ways engag'd against the late King were pardon'd, save the Regicides and a very few others. And in *October* Major General *Harrison*, Mr. *John Carew* and other of the Regicides, were arraign'd at the *Old-Baily* in *London*, where they were all found guilty, and condemn'd to die the Death due to Traytors. Of the Regicides now condemn'd, were hang'd and quarter'd at *Charing-Cross*, *Harrison*, *Carew*, *Cook*, *Peters*, *Scot*, *Scroop*, *Jones* and *Clement*; and at *Tyburn* *Hacker* was hang'd; and *Antel*, a busy Promoter of the King's Death, was hang'd and quarter'd.

In the Year 1648. *Titus Oates*, who had been educated at *Cambridge* and admitted into *Orders*, did afterwards seemingly turn Roman Catholick, and going over into *St. Omer's*, was admitted into the *English* College there, from thence he went into *Spain*, and returning home discover'd a dangerous Conspiracy, which the *Jesuits* and *Romish* Priests and others were carrying on to murder the King, destroy the Government, and subvert the establish'd Religion. In order to which *One Grove* a Lay-Man, and *Pickering*



a Priest, were contracted with to kill the King; and lest this should fail, a Contract was by other Conspirators made with Sir *George Wakeman* a Physician, who for Fifteen Thousand Pounds was to poison the King: Again, lest both these should fail, a Third Means was propos'd, and that was by Four Ruffians, who were hir'd for Fourscore Pounds to Assassinate his Majesty at *Windsor*. That he had seen the Pistols that *Grove* and *Pickering* had prepar'd with Silver Bullets, to shoot the King in *St. James's Park*; and that he had several Times seen the said *Grove* and *Pickering* in the Park, waiting an Opportunity; that in *March* the said Year, *Pickering* had a fair Opportunity, but that the Flint of his Pistol being loose, he could not shoot, &c. That an Army was to be rais'd and commanded by certain Lords. That there was also a Design laid for killing the Duke of *Ormond*, and raising a Rebellion in *Ireland*, Forty Thousand black Bills being provided to be sent thither for the Papists. That Commissions had been granted from *Rome*, to make the Lord *Arundel* of *Wardour* Lord Chancellor, the Earl of *Powis* Lord Treasurer, the Lord *Bellafyfe* General of the Army, the Lord *Petres* Lieutenant-General, the Lord *Stafford* Pay-master of the Army, Mr. *Coleman* Secretary of State, and Mr. *Langborn* Advocate of the Army. The chief Conspirators were Mr. *Coleman* and Mr. *Langborn* Lawyers, the Five Lords abovemention'd, and several others.

There afterwards came in divers other Witnesses to corroborate *Oates's* Testimony

There were also seiz'd in Mr. Coleman's Chamber several Papers, importing a Design of Propagating the Popish Religion in England, &c. and what confirm'd the Suspicion of the abovesaid Plot, was that Sir Edmund-bury Godfrey, who had in his Hands all Oates's Informations, was on Saturday the Twelfth of October missing from his House, and Four Days after was found dead in a Ditch by Primrose-Hill, with his own Sword run thro' his Body, upon which it was immediately concluded that the Papists had murder'd him.

The House of Commons was very vigorous in examining the Evidence, and seizing the Persons accus'd in the Popish Plot; and the Five abovesaid Lords were sent to the Tower. A general Fast was likewise order'd to be kept on this Occasion.

Edward Coleman, Esq; Secretary to the Dutchess of York, came first to his Trial at the King's-Bench-Bar, and was found guilty, and on the Third of December was drawn to Tyburn, and there hang'd and quarter'd. On the Seventeenth of December William Ireland, Pickering and Grove were try'd at the Sessions-House in the Old-Bailie, and all found guilty, and were accordingly condemn'd, and executed at Tyburn. On February the Tenth the Year following, Green, Bury and Hill were try'd and condemn'd, for the Murder of Sir Edmund-bury Godfrey, and were executed at Tyburn the Twentieth of the same Month. On the Twentieth of June, Five Jesuits and Popish Priests, viz. Whitebread, Harcourt, Fenwick, Gawan, and Turner, and the next Day,

*Richard Layburn* were try'd and condemn'd for the abovesaid Plot, and were all six executed at *Tyburn*. On the Eighteenth of July, *Sir George Wakeman* Physician to the Queen, *William Rumley*, *William Marshal* and *James Corker* Priests, were likewise try'd for the said Plot, but the Evidence not being clear, they were acquitted. On the Thirtieth of November 1680, *William Viscount Stafford* was brought to Tryal before the Peers in *Westminster-Hall*, being charg'd with High-Treason, in conspiring to depose and murder the King, and extirpate the Protestant Religion. He was found guilty, and accordingly receiv'd Sentence of Death, and was beheaded on *Tower-Hill* on the Twentieth of December. And on the Third of May 1681, *Oliver Plunket*, Titular Primate of *Ireland*, was try'd at the *King's-Bench-Bar* for High-Treason and found guilty, and executed at *Tyburn*.

On the Twelfth of June 1683, another Conspiracy was discover'd by one *Josiah Keeling*, a Citizen of *London*, and by *Trade a Saker*; who deposed before the Principal Secretary of State, that there was and had been for some Months past, a Conspiracy for raising a general Insurrection all over the Kingdom, and for taking away the Lives of the King and his Brother the Duke of *York*, whose Evidence being corroborated by that of his Brother, several of the Conspirators were taken, some of whom confirm'd *Keeling's* Evidence; the first that was brought to Tryal for this Conspiracy, was Lieutenant-Colonel *Thomas Walcot*, who was found guilty.



ty and executed on the Twentieth of July. The next was *William Hane* a Joyner, who was likewise found guilty and executed. *William Lord Russel*, was on the Thirteenth of July brought to Tryal at the Old-Baily, where *Rumsey* depos'd against him, that he was present at a Consult at Mr. *Shephard's* in October or November 1682, where there was a Discourse about a Rising and Seizing the Guards, and that the Lord *Russel* did speak about the Rising. *Shephard* swore to the same Effect. That in one Meeting at his House, *Ferguson* read something in the Nature of a Declaration in order to a Rising; but that he could not say the Lord *Russel* was there at that Time. The Lord *Howard of Effrick* depos'd, that after the Earl of *Shaftsbury's* Flight, the chief Persons concern'd agreed, they had gone so far, they could not with Safety go back, and for carrying it on, constituted a Council of Six Persons, who were the Duke of *Monmouth*, the Earl of *Essex*, the Lord *Russel*, Colonel *Algernon Sidney*, Mr. *Hampden* and himself. That these Councils were frequently held, and the Things debated in them were an intended Insurrection, and raising a common Bank of Twenty Five, or Thirty Thousand Pound; but that the greatest Point was to draw in *Scotland*, to consent with them, &c. That the Second of these Consults was held at the Lord *Russel's* House. Against this Evidence the Lord *Russel's* Defence was, that the Meetings were only to talk of News in general; and that he was at *Shephard's* to taste Sherry. He deny'd the knowing of any such

such Council; and that the Witnesses swore to save their Lives. But upon the Whole, he was found guilty, and on the Twenty First of that Month beheaded on a Scaffold in *Lincoln-Inn* Fields. Of whom the World was not worthy.

The Earl of *Essex*, who was likewise accus'd of this Conspiracy, was made Prisoner in the *Tower*, where it was said he cut his own Throat on the Day of the Lord *Russel's* Tryal. But there was loud Outcries made, and great Suspicion of some villanous underhand Dealing of the Papists in this Matter.

On the Seventh of *November*, Colonel *Algernon Sidney* was arraign'd, and on the Twenty First of the same Month brought to Tryal, for being One of the Council of the Six abovemention'd, &c. The chief Evidence against him, was the Lord *Howard*. He was found guilty and beheaded on *Tower-Hill*, *December* the Seventh.

The rest that suffer'd for this Conspiracy in this Reign, were *John Rouse*, *James Holloway* and Sir *Thomas Armstrong*,

## JAMES II. 1685.

**J**AMES Duke of York succeeded his Brother King *Charles* the Second, who dy'd without lawful Issue. Against whom the Duke of *Monmouth*, King *Charles* the Second's first natural Son, rais'd a formidable Insurrection in the *West* of *England*, the same Year that he came to the Crown; he hir'd a Man of War of Thirty Two Guns at *Amsterdam*, and Three other small Vessels, on which he load-

loaded Arms for Five Thousand Men, with whom he sail'd *May* the Twenty Fourth out of the *Toul*. On *Thursday* the Eleventh of *June*, he landed at *Lyme* in *Dorsetshire*, to whom there came such a Concourſe of the Country People, that he had ſoon the Appearance of an Army.

King *James* being immediately inform'd of his Arrival, communicated it to the Parliament, who expreſs'd their Detestation of the ſame in an Addreſs from each Houſe, wherein they offer'd their utmoſt Aſſiſtance, and promis'd to ſtand by his Maſteſty with their Lives and Fortunes againſt the Duke of *Monmouth*, and all his Adherents. And a Proclamation was immediately iſſu'd forth, wherein the Duke of *Monmouth*, the Lord *Gray* and all others his Adherents, were declar'd Traytors and Rebels. The Parliament likewiſe order'd a Bill of Attainder againſt *James Duke of Monmouth*, which being brought into the Houſe of Commons on the Fourteenth of *June*, was paſs'd the ſame Day, and receiv'd the Royal Aſſent on the Sixteenth.

On the other Hand, the Duke of *Monmouth* publiſh'd a Declaration, which was entitl'd, *The Declaration of James Duke of Monmouth, and the Noblemen, Gentlemen and others now in Arms, for the Defence and Vindication of the Proteſtant Religion, and of the Laws, Rights and Privileges of England from the Invaſion made upon them, and for delivering the Nation from the Uſurpation and Tyranny of James Duke of York*. And in it, he charg'd the King with poiſoning his late Maſteſty.

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There happen'd several Skirmishes between the Duke's Party and the Militia of the Country, joyn'd with some of the King's Troops, before he sent down competent Forces against them; but the only Action of Importance, and which put an End to that Insurrection, was the decisive Battle at *Sedge-more* on the Fifth of *July*, early in the Morning. The King's Army consisted of Two Thousand Foot, and Seven Hundred Horse, commanded by the Earl of *Feverham*. And the Duke appear'd at the Head of between Five and Six Thousand Foot form'd into Battalia, the Lord *Gray* having the Command of the Horse, which were upwards of One Thousand. The Duke's Party began with a great Volley of Shot and Shouts, which was return'd by the King's, and both Parties fought for a while with great Resolution. But the Lord *Gray* with his Horse, nor without Suspicion of Treachery, retir'd and quitted the Field without ever Engaging, and the Duke's Foot likewise wanting Ammunition, because the Baggage by some Default was not brought into the *Moor*, were entirely routed, Three Hundred kill'd on the Spot, a Thousand in the Pursuit, and as many taken Prisoners, among whom were Colonel *Holmes*, Major *Perrot*, the Constable of *Crook-horn*, and One of the Duke's Servants, with Two Hundred Guineas of his Master's. Of the King's Forces about Three Hundred were kill'd, and a great many wounded. The Duke was afterwards taken by one *Perkin*, who discover'd him hid in a Ditch, cover'd over with Fern, and having some

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Pease in his Pocket ; and upon the Fifteenth of *July* was beheaded on *Tower-Hill*, by Virtue of the Attainder in Parliament. The Lord *Gray* was likewise apprehended, but had his Pardon.

Soon after the Suppression of this Rebellion, the Lord Chief Justice *Jeffreys*; with Four other Judges, his Assistants, and a Body of Troops commanded by Colonel *Kirk*, was sent into the *West* of England, with a special Commission, to try the poor Wretches that had been in this Insurrection. At *Winchester*, Mrs. *Alicia Lisle*, the Relict of *John Lisle*, One of King *Charles* the First's Judges, a Woman of extreme Age, was try'd for Concealing Mr. *Hicks* a Nonconformist Teacher, and *Richard Nelthorp*, (the latter being a Stranger, and the former in no Proclamation) and tho' the Jury brought her in Three Times *not guilty*, yet *Jeffreys* Threats so far prevail'd, that she was at last found guilty of High Treason, and beheaded for it. The Judges went next to *Dorchester*, where *Jeffreys* finding Thirty Persons return'd by the Grand Inquest as Assistants to the late Duke of *Monmouth*, he contriv'd this Stratagem of taking the shortest Way with them, that whosoever pleaded *not guilty* and was found so, should have little Time to live ; but if any expected Favour, they must plead *guilty*. But the Prisoners would not trust him, tho' a Confession or Denyal had been all one. For of Thirty pleading *not guilty* Twenty Nine were found *guilty*, and soon after executed, as were Fourscore more out of Two Hundred Thirty Three, who were de-

deluded to plead *Guilty* by a Promise of Pardon. The same was done at *Exeter*, to near as many who were alike deluded; and also at *Taunton* and *Wells*, where *Jeffreys* finish'd his Bloody Assizes. In these Two last Places, he condemn'd above Five Hundred Persons, whereof Two Hundred and Thirty Nine were executed, and had their Quarters set up in the principal Places and Roads of those Countries, to the Terror of Passengers, and the great Annoyance of those Parts.

But the Chief Justice was not more hasty to hang up those who had no Money, than he was forward to procure Pardons for those that could pay the Purchase of them. He had the Conscience to take above Fourteen Thousand Pounds from One Gentleman to to save him. Those poor Wretches who could not purchase Pardons at his Rates, were sold for Slaves into the *American* Plantations. And when after this Satiating of Justice, there came out a general Pardon, it was clogg'd with so many Exceptions, that it was call'd *ridiculously cruel*. For not only those were excepted, who had made their Escape; but all the *Taunton* Maidens, who had made Colours and presented them to the Duke of *Monmouth*, some of them but Eight or Nine Years old, were all excepted by Name; and no Pardon could be purchased for this Piece of Treason, till their Parents had paid more for it than would have provided a Marriage Portion for them. 'Tis said that after this barbarous Expedition, the Lord *Jeffreys*, a Man of a sarcastick and a-



bulive Wit, was heard to boast with some Pleasure, *That he had hang'd more Men than all the Judges of England, since William the Conqueror.* And King James, as a Reward to these his faithful Services, made him Lord Chancellor.

Nor was Judge *Jeffreys* the only Person that executed the King's Orders; but Colonel *Kirk*, a Soldier of Fortune, a Man of Boldness and Looseness, did also act a considerable Part in these unhappy Tragedies. After the Duke's Defeat, he caus'd Ninety wounded Men to be hang'd at *Taunton*, not only without permitting their Relations to speak with them, but with Pipes playing, Drums beating, Trumpets sounding, and all other Military Pomp and Joy. At another Town he invited his Officers to Dinner, near the Place where the condemn'd Rebels were to be executed, and order'd Ten of them to be turn'd off with a Health to the King, Ten in a Health to the Queen, and Ten more in a Health to the Lord *Jeffreys*. These Cruelties, he did afterwards endeavour to palliate, saying, *He did nothing but by express Order from the King and his General.*

There were also several other Persons some time after this condemn'd and executed on Account of the *Rye-House Plot*, (for which many suffer'd in the last Reign as is above related) particularly *Henry Cornish*, Esq; some time Sheriff of *London*; whose Attainder was afterwards revers'd by the Parliament in the succeeding Reign, as were also the Attainders of the Lord *Russel*, and *Algernoon Sidney*, Esq; (who fell Sacrifices to the Resentment of

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of the Popish Party) and Mrs. *Alicia*  
*Life.*

## WILLIAM and MART.

1688.

**U**PON King *James's* Abdication of the Throne, *William* and *Mary*, Prince and Princess of *Orange*, were with universal Approbation and Joy proclaim'd and crown'd King and Queen of *England*, &c. During whose Reign there happen'd not any publick Insurrection in this Nation, to which we confine our History. But frequent Attempts were made by the Friends of King *James* for his Restoration, as well by soliciting a *French* Assistance, as by raising several desperate and bloody Conspiracies against the Life of King *William*.

In the Year 1690, notwithstanding King *James's* Disappointment in *Ireland*, his Friends in *England* still pursu'd their Designs, and procur'd considerable Numbers to embark with them therein, whereupon they resolv'd to apply themselves to the *French* King for Assistance; and accordingly the Lord *Preston* with Two Gentlemen, *Mr. Ashton* and *Mr. Elliot*, were deputed (and actually took Shipping in the most private Manner) to go to *France*; but the Government having Notice watch'd them, and a little below *Gravesend*, their Ship was boarded, and their Persons seiz'd. In *Mr. Ashton's* Bosom, was found a Packet of Papers, by which it was plain, that they were going to *France*, to invite the *French* King to invade *England*.

And

And Letters and Addresses from several Persons (particularly from Dr. Turner late Bishop of *Ely*.) to King *James*, with Minutes and Instructions for the *French Fleet*, and other Papers of the like Import were found in this Pacquet. The Lord *Preston* and Mr. *Ashton* were both of them try'd and condemn'd, and the latter was executed, but the former obtain'd Pardon.

In the Year 1692, there was a Conspiracy against the King's Life, form'd by the *French* abroad, wherein some of his *English* Subjects were likewise engag'd. The *French Court* had for a long Time indulg'd itself in an Opinion, that it was lawful to take away the Life of King *William*, by any Means that might effect it. And therefore *Camillard* himself, their Prime Minister of State, did not disdain to treat with One *Granvate*, who last Campaign undertook to Assassinate him. What he could not effect then, the same Man was now again attempting, and had associated to him for it Two Persons, nam'd *Lesfedael* and *Du Mons*, who were to have stabbed the King at a convenient Opportunity, and then to have fled to a Body of *Luxemburg's* Army, who under the Command of Monsieur *Champbay* and Colonel *Parker*, (an *Englishman*, who had been in all their Designs against the King's Life) were to advance to receive them. But it pleas'd God to touch the Hearts of the Two Accomplices with Compunction; and they having discover'd the Thing, *Granvate* was seiz'd at *Eyndenhoven* and brought to Tryal, where being convicted, he was executed on the Thirteenth of



*August*, and at his Death confess'd the whole, and acknowledg'd his Guilt.

In 1693, One *Lunt*, who came from *France*, discover'd a Conspiracy call'd the *Lancashire* Plot, which was the Design of the Roman-Catholicks to raise a Rebellion; to which Purpose Commissions were sent to them from King *James*, and Arms were brought up and lodg'd in private Places, and Men list'd to bear them. Another Person nam'd *Taffe*, who became acquainted with *Lunt*, push'd him forward in his Discovery, and was very active in assisting the Messengers sent down to search for Arms. But it seems the Conspirators had Time to remove the Arms, for none or few were found, nor any Commissions or Papers, except the Draught of a Declaration in Favour of King *James*. *Taffe* was deny'd the Reward he demanded, which put him out of Humour, and made him liable to the Temptations on the other Side, who fail'd not to take the Advantage, but bought him over to their Service. He then declar'd that it was all a Sham invented by him and *Lunt*, which together with the Circumstance of nothing found in searching, and some Management in the Tryal, brought the Gentlemen off, who were try'd at *Manchester*, *October* the Sixteenth 1694, and acquitted; and the Witnesses were order'd by Authority to be prosecuted for Perjury. If the *Lancashire* Gentlemen had sat still here, they might possibly have been believ'd innocent; but their Overwarmth made them bring it into Parliament *November* the Twenty Second 1694. The House

of Commons examin'd into it with great Exactness, and in the Month of *February* following voted, that there was sufficient Ground for the Prosecution and Tryal of the Gentlemen at *Manchester*, and that there was a dangerous Plot carry'd on against the King and Government. And the Matter being afterwards carry'd into the House of Lords, it was there also resolv'd, that the Government had sufficient Cause to prosecute the *Lancashire* and *Cheshire* Gentlemen.

In 1696, a Scene open'd which gave great Surprise. The Enemy, as I have said before, had taken up an Opinion, that it was not dishonourable to take away the King's Life by any Means that could accomplish it. And therefore in 1695 resolv'd to Assassinate him in his Palace, which had the soft Term given it, of Attacking the Prince of *Orange* in his Winter Quarters. Agents were accordingly employ'd in *England*, and Measures concerted in *France* to back them. Particularly in *May*, at the *Old-King's-Head* Tavern in *Leaden-Hall-Street* *London*, there met the Earl of *Aylsbury*, the Lord *Montgomery*, Sir *John Friend*, Sir *William Perkins*, Sir *John Fenwick*, Mr. *Charnock*, Captain *Porter*, Mr. *Cook*, and Mr. *Goodman*. There they consulted on the best Way to restore the late King; and all agreed that the most proper Method was to send a special Messenger to King *James*, and desire him to procure of the *French* King Ten Thousand Men; and that they would meet King *James* at the Head of Two Thousand Horse, wherever he would appoint them. The *French* King refus'd to spare

spare King *James* so many Men; but notwithstanding at the same Time took such Measures as might suite with the Jacobites Request, tho' they durst not trust them with the Secret, nay not King *James* himself, till a Squadron of Men of War and Four Hundred Transport Ships were fitted out; and the *French* Army, consisting of Thirty Battalions, were ready to embark, and Money and Directions sent to his Majesty, to go on board and take Possession of *England*. But it pleas'd God to disappoint them, by discovering the Design; for on the first Notice of the *French* Preparations, the Elector of *Bavaria* and the Duke of *Wirtemberg*, sent Advices from *Flanders* to King *William* of it, and both the Duke of *Bavaria*, and States General stopp'd all Shipping in *Ostend* and *Bruges*, and the *Sas van Ghent*, to transport the Forces which they immediately brought down to Ship off for *England*.

But notwithstanding this Disappointment, the Conspiracy against the King's Life was carry'd on. And in December 1695, *Sir George Barclay*, and Two and Twenty of King *James's* Guards and Officers came into *England*, with a Commission from the late King to levy War upon the Prince of *Orange*, and all his Adherents. Being arriv'd at *London*, they endeavour'd to strengthen their Party, by the Addition of Twelve or Thirteen other Gentlemen, some of which were engag'd in the Assassination the Year before. Several Ways were propos'd to effect what they aim'd at; some were for seizing his Majesty and carrying him alive into *France*.

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Others



Others propos'd to kill his Majesty at Kensington, by attacking his Guards and forcing his Palace in the Dead of the Night. Others again were for Murthuring the King as he came on Sunday to St. James's Chappel. Another Proposal was to murder the King as he return'd from Hunting in a narrow Lane, by a Wood Side near Richmond, leading to the Thames. But none of the above Proposals were lik'd. At last they all fix'd upon a Place between Turnham-Green and Brentford in a Moorish Bottom, where there is a Bridge and divers Roads that cross one another. The Fifteenth of February was the Day appointed to act this bloody Tragedy, but they were disappointed, for the King did not go abroad that Day. Upon this some of them began to be timorous, and withdrew themselves. But the Boldest of the Plotters, Sir George Barclay, Sir William Perkins, Captain Pym, and Mr. Goodman, had another Meeting, and they resolv'd to execute their bloody Project on Sunday February the Twenty First; but this Plot was happily prevented by Mr. Pendergast, Mr. De la Rue, and Captain Porter's Discovery.

On the Twenty Third of February, the King publish'd a Proclamation for Apprehending the Duke of Berwick, (who came to London to forward the Design) Sir George Barclay, Major Lewick, and all the rest of the Conspirators, therein particularly nam'd. And in a few Days after, several of them were apprehended. And Charnock, who next to Sir George Barclay, was a Prime Manager of the intended Assassination, King, who had been

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been a Lieutenant, and *Thomas Key* who was a Trumpeter and sometime Servant to *Purcell*, were all Three try'd, condemn'd and executed. The next that were brought to Tryal, were Sir *William Perkins* and Sir *John Friend*, who were condemn'd and afterwards drawn in a Hurdle to *Tyburn*, and executed. Therafter Brigadier *Birkwood*, Major *Lewis* and Mr. *Cramburn*, Three of the Conspirators, were try'd, found guilty, condemn'd, and executed. Mr. *Cooke* and Mr. *Knightly* were also try'd and convicted; but upon his Majesty's unparalell'd Clemency, Mr. *Cooke* was only banish'd *England*, and Mr. *Knightly* was graciously pardon'd. These were all that suffer'd for this Plot, till Sir *John Rendell* was taken and attainted by Act of Parliament in the following Session, who was accordingly beheaded on *Tower-Hill*.

## ANNE 1702.

THE Reign of Queen *Anne*, was free from intestine Commotions. But we must remember, that in the Examination of the *Scott Plot* in 1703, publish'd by the House of Lords, there appear'd to be a Correspondence carry'd on with *France* in Favour of the pretended *James the Third*, by one *Gregg* and others, and particularly with the Duke d'*Amont*, under the Notion of having *Paris-Gazettes* from him. We may also remember, that the intended Invasion in 1708 was encourag'd underhand by some who had a considerable Share in the Government. For the honest Ministers then at the Helm, had

had Difficulty enough to procure necessary Orders for opposing that Invasion. Nor did any One Person, tho' several were taken up for Countenancing that Invasion, suffer upon that Account. Nor could it be obtain'd that any One of those *British* Subjects taken on Board the *Salisbury* Man of War, that came over with the *Pretender*, should be made an Example of publick Justice. From all which it is evident, that dangerous Conspiracies had been secretly form'd in this Reign, tho' they prov'd Abortive.

## GEORGE 1685.

**K**ING *George* came peaceably to the Crown, and reign'd so for One entire Year: But the Second Year began with a formidable Rebellion, in Favour of the pretended *James* the Third. But this being so fresh in Remembrance, it is not necessary to give a particular Account of it, especially because so short an Abridgment as we are here confin'd to, would be of little or no Purpose to the present Age, which hath seen and heard all at large; and it being likewise very fully and particularly related in a History by itself.

FINIS

